

سكنا من الامم

Ten held in PSA bribery inquiry

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Building up... How a couple are constructing their £100,000 home themselves... knocking down One man's harrowing tale of getting the builders in... High note... The Milan opera season opens with Placido Domingo in Bizet's Carmen



pitching in Preview of England's second Test in India, British club's UEFA hopes and Celtic's Cup Winners' Cup replay

Portfolio

There was no winner in The Times Portfolio competition yesterday, so today's prize is increased to £4,000. Portfolio list, page 20; how to play, information service, back page.

Hijack pilot tells of hell for six days

Captain Harry Clark, the freed British pilot, of the hijacked Kuwaiti Airbus, said at Tehran yesterday that the ordeal had been one of "sheer hell" and terror for six days.

Council move on Sunday trading

Derby City Council has decided to seek a high court injunction preventing Debenhams opening its store for trading on the next two Sundays.

Bradford choice

Mr Muhammad Ayub, aged 47, a Labour councillor, is to be Bradford's first Pakistani lord mayor. He will take office from next May.

Tory revolt

A group of senior Conservative MPs has tabled an amendment to the Local Government Bill that would provide for the GLC's replacement by a directly-elected authority.

Unesco pullout

Britain has given formal notice of its intention to quit Unesco at the end of 1985, but has left the way open for a change of mind.

Rail threat

A 24-hour strike set from midnight last night threatened to paralyse rail services in and out of South Wales.

Cricket inquiry

The Test and County Cricket Board has set up a working party to examine the organization and management of the England team.

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MPs set to fight 'third airport' at Stansted proposal

MPs of all parties last night braced themselves to oppose the recommendations of a report which urges that Stansted airport in Essex should be developed as London's third airport.

Nineteen-five Conservatives have signed a Commons motion declaring that they "will not approve the establishment of a third London airport at Stansted".

The report of an extensive public inquiry recommends that Stansted should be developed to handle 15 million passengers as soon as possible.

The report says that expanding the airport is the only way to meet an air travel boom expected in the early to mid-1990s.

At present the airport handles 500,000 passengers a year, but the report recommends that it should be expanded to handle 15 million a year with consideration for allowing it to handle 25 million.

The report says that Stansted's growth should be limited to the capacity of its single existing runway on environmental grounds, but thought should be given to allowing it to handle up to 25 million passengers a year - about the same as planned for Gatwick airport.

Heathrow airport could not be expanded in time to meet the demand, the report says. But it could be expanded later from a planned 38 million passengers a year to 53 million if a nearby sewage treatment works was moved to make way for a possible fifth terminal.

The necessary planning permission to enable Stansted airport to be developed to a capacity of 15 million passengers a year should be granted as expeditiously as possible, the report by inquiry inspector Mr Graham Eyre QC, says.

It follows a 258-day public hearing into the British Airports Authority's plans to develop Stansted and create up to 30,000 new jobs. A major parliamentary debate on the plans will be held, possibly in the new year, with a Government decision likely to be announced in the spring.

The inquiry prompted angry reaction from northern MPs and the promise that the Government would a full-scale political battle over the scheme.

Mr Alfred Morris, Labour MP for Manchester, Wythenshawe, said there would be "an explosion of anger" in the north and added: "We now have a major parliamentary battle on our hands. The row over students grants will look like a vicarage tea party by comparison."

Mr Morris, who sponsored a Commons motion, urging that the new airport should be in the north, which attracted a record 225 signatures, said: "Even to think of spending £1 billion developing Stansted mocks the plight of the unemployed in the north. There may be some unemployment in rural Essex, but it is nothing compared with the scandalous unemployment in the north."

Local residents and conservationists around Stansted are "monstrous", and a North of England consortium seeking expansion of Manchester instead of London pledged to continue the fight against Stansted.

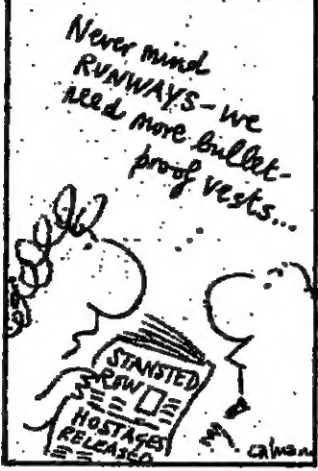
The report was strongly attacked yesterday by the North of England Regional Consortium which wants more growth at Manchester, and by British Airways who said development of Stansted would hamper growth at Heathrow and damage its competitive position in relation to continental rivals.

But the report was welcomed by the British Airports Authority as paving the way to development vital for the future of one of Britain's most successful industries.

Expansion at Heathrow was welcomed by BA as strengthening a vital national asset and improving service to the customer. Besides development of Heathrow Terminal 5, BA want development of direct services from regional airports like Manchester and Birmingham, the airlines said.

The northern consortium is pledged to go on fighting Stansted despite the inquiry report, a spokesman said.

Inquiry report, page 4
Leading article, page 17



Bishop Tutu after the ceremony yesterday

Bomb scare mars Tutu prize-giving

Oslo (Reuters) - Bishop Desmond Tutu collected the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize yesterday after a bomb scare disrupted the ceremony and forced a 90-minute evacuation of the university hall here.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded him the £150,000 prize for what it called his unifying role in the campaign against South Africa's policy of racial segregation.

Bishop Tutu, who was rushed out of the hall with King Olav of Norway and the entire Government, said the bomb threat showed the despair of those opposed to peace and justice and proved the importance of the prize.

The Oslo newspaper, Dagbladet, reported that a man speaking broken Norwegian had telephoned saying he had planted a bomb to go off during the ceremony to express support for white South Africans and to protest against the bishop. The ceremony resumed after police failed to find any sign of a bomb.

Accepting the award, the bishop said it proved that "our cause is a just cause and that we will attain human rights in South Africa and everywhere in the world. We shall be free in South Africa and everywhere in the world". He concluded by asking: "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

The ceremony marked the eighty-eighth anniversary of the death of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite, who set up the prize for "champions of peace, fraternity between peoples and the abolition or reduction of standing armies".

Bishop Tutu, who will use the money for an educational trust in South Africa, said the 1984 prize was a powerful symbol for the world's oppressed.

The Norwegian committee, traditionally invited to a diplomatic reception by the peace laureate's country to the ceremony, but Foreign Ministry officials said no invitation had been extended this year to South Africa. Pretoria has remained silent on the award.

● STOCKHOLM: The daughter of the Czechoslovak poet, Jaroslav Seifert, in a speech yesterday accepting the 1984 Nobel Prize for literature on his behalf, said her father wished to pay tribute to those whose work went unwarded.

Mrs Jana Seifertova collected her 83-year-old father's award at a ceremony in the concert hall here at which Nobel prizes for physics, chemistry, medicine and economics were also presented. Mr Seifert, one of the original members of the Charter 77 human rights group in Czechoslovakia, did not collect the prize because of poor health.

Arrests cancelled, page 6

Kinnock attack on Tories over Tebbit

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, yesterday accused the Conservative campaign organizers in the Enfield, Southgate, by-election of improperly exploiting sympathy for Norman Tebbit to help their candidate in the election on Thursday.

Mr Kinnock's attack came after voters were invited to return the Conservative candidate, Mr Michael Portillo, to demonstrate that terrorism and assassination have no place in British politics.

The message, indirect but unmistakable, was in a leaflet put through voters' letter-boxes, which carried a letter sent from hospital by Mr Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Mr Tebbit and his wife, Margaret, are slowly recovering from injuries received in the Brighton hotel bombing in October, in which Sir Anthony Berry, the Conservative MP for Enfield, Southgate, was killed.

"The Conservative Party is going to have to come to terms with its conscience in the way it has chosen to use the horrific events which caused this by-election," Mr Kinnock said at a press conference in support of the Labour candidate, Mr Peter Hamid.

Mr Tebbit's letter, his first party political act for two months, was taken by a relaxed Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democrats, as evidence of recovery: "It is nice to see Norman back in the political fray," he said.

Dr Owen, who was campaigning for the Liberal Alliance candidate, Mr Tim Slack, said it would be unwise to blur differences between condemning terrorism, on which all parties were united, and the normal business of party politics.

Mr Tebbit wrote to Mr Portillo saying he had hoped to join the campaign.

He went on: "It is absolutely essential that you should be returned to serve in Tony's (Berry's) place. As Gerald Kaufman said, 'the only way that we get rid of a government in Britain is by the ballot box. Terrorism and assassination have no place whatever in the political process in this country'."

"It is important that the people of Southgate should now show their response to terrorist violence by a clear and decisive vote."

Sir Anthony, MP for Enfield, Southgate for 20 years, was a greatly liked and respected member, and canvassers in all parties have found Conservative supporters who say they will maintain their support out of sympathy and respect for Sir Anthony and to show disapproval of his murder.

Yesterday canvassing continued at the highest pitch, with both Conservative and Liberal camps using hundreds of voluntary helpers.

TGWU fear on contempt fine deadline

The deadline for the payment of a £200,000 contempt of court fine by Britain's biggest union was expected to pass at midnight last night amid signs of deep reservations among the 40-strong executive about the union's continued refusal to pay.

Even some members of the hard left in the Transport and General Workers' Union are privately expressing grave doubts about the policy which today or tomorrow could result in the sequestration of all its £54 million funds.

It is likely that Mr Moss Evans, general secretary, will appeal against the seizure of all its funds partly on the grounds that the executive is bound by a biennial delegate conference decision to defy the law. It is not clear whether the appeal will take the form of a letter to the High Court, or representation at hearings.

The fine was imposed on November 26 because the union declared a strike at Austin Rover official without conducting a ballot.

Opponents of the militant policy on the executive argue that a conference resolution commits them to oppose and defy employment legislation, but does not tie them to a continuing contempt of court. They doubt whether the court will limit its sequestration to the £200,000 plus costs.

Secret contacts fail to revive pit peace talks

Any hopes of peace talks between the miners and the coal board died last night with the failure of informal contacts between the two sides.

The Treasury has promised to underwrite the costs of Price Waterhouse, the sequestrators who are trying to seize the NUM's funds of £8 million.

Price Waterhouse hope that £4.38 million of the NUM assets, now lodged with a Luxembourg finance house, can be repatriated without further legal action.

A decision to seal off part of Rossington Colliery to isolate an underground fire has been delayed because firefighters are managing to contain the blaze (page 2).

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Hopes of a resumption of peace talks between the miners and the National Coal Board (NCB) that could end the strike now in its 40th week died last night.

Informal contacts between the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), the NCB and the Government failed to bring together the warring parties in the dispute that has shut down two-thirds of the coal industry.

Contacts between the two sides in the pit conflict continued behind the scenes, with private discussions between the NCB and NUM representatives, but these contacts failed to bring the two sides together for substantive negotiations.

NUM leaders are to meet in Sheffield on Thursday to discuss their next move in the dispute, buttressed by decisions made last night by members of the "Liaison group" to support their industrial action against colliery closures.

The TUC's seven-man liaison group has given strong support to the NUM's campaign to halt the shutdown of "uneconomic pits", and it met again yesterday to give supportive action to the mineworkers. Its deliberations were not made public.

The TUC leaders declined to make any wider comment, arguing only that they had agreed to support the mineworkers.

The NCB confirmed its own view that the miners' action would do no more than confirm the position of many of its members, which has come out of view of normal working.

Mr Michael Eaton, chief spokesman for the board argued that the drift back to work already seen in the coal fields now meant that many more mineworkers were abandoning the strike.

An independent inquiry for the National Council for Civil Liberties into the miners' dispute was attacked yesterday by a senior police chief (Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent).

The interim report says that the right to work and cross a picket line is as much a fundamental liberty as the right to picket.

Mr Charles McLachlan, president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said the report tried to sway the public against the police. It paid lip service to what police saw as the real civil liberties.

Inquiry report, page 2

Treasury pledge to sequestrators

By Anthony Berrins and David Felton

Price Waterhouse, the High Court sequestrators who have been trying to seize more than £8 million belonging to the National Union of Mineworkers, have been promised that the Treasury will underwrite their costs.

An unprecedented offer from Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, was verbally given to the partnership on November 13, a few days after Price Waterhouse reported that they had only been able to take £8,000 of NUM money, but it was made public in revised winter supplementary estimates published by the Treasury yesterday.

There were strong Labour protests in the Commons. Mr Stan Orme, the shadow spokesman for energy, said that the government was directly interfering in a court judgment, and he said it was outrageous that journalists should have been briefed in advance by Mr Bernard Ingham, the Prime Minister's press secretary.

Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, said: "I believe the House of Commons should always be told first what is going on."

Costs so far incurred are put at £25,000 in Ireland, £5,000 in Luxembourg, £5,000 in Switzerland and £3,000 in the Isle of Man.

In Luxembourg yesterday lawyers representing Price Waterhouse told a court that in order freezing the NUM's £4.38 million in the country would not help Mr Michael Arnold, appointed receiver of NUM assets by the High Court on Friday.

It became apparent that Mr Arnold will make a direct approach to the court to get the money released. It was alleged that the NUM tried to move the money last week.

British specialists help treat Bhopal gas victims

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi

Two British medical specialists flew into Bhopal yesterday to help doctors treating tens of thousands of people injured in last week's gas disaster, which killed more than 2,000.

Dr Alan Johns, director of the Royal Commonwealth Consultants, are assessing the injuries to eyes and lungs and considering if special treatments and medicines are needed.

More than 50,000 people have been treated for injuries, and, according to the Madhya Pradesh health director in Bhopal, more than half of them "are on the serious side". About 100,000 people in all are thought to have inhaled methyl isocyanate (MIC) which leaked from the Union Carbide plant and sent thousands stampeding through the streets in panic.

Medical opinion on the damage that MIC does to eyes is divided. Doctors have given assurances that blindness is temporary and a senior doctor said the drugs on hand were adequate. Thousands of people have their eyes bandaged.

Dr Alan Johns

But an Indian eye specialist said yesterday that there could be permanent damage. Doctors have emphasized that they are dealing with the unknown, that no one can say what the long-term effects of the gas, on eyes and other organs, will be.

This sort of uncertainty contributes to the atmosphere of anxiety and fear in the city. One object of fear is the remaining MIC stored in two tanks at the plant.

For the public's peace of mind it is becoming a matter of urgency to neutralize and remove the MIC, which is stored in liquid form.

● DANBURY: Union Carbide and its Indian subsidiary are donating a total of \$1.3 million (£1.5 million) to an emergency relief fund for the victims of the Bhopal gas leak disaster, the company's chairman, Mr Warren Anderson, announced in Connecticut yesterday (AP reports).

The \$1 million emergency fund announced yesterday is in addition to the \$840,000 allocated by the company's Indian subsidiary.

Enter justice, in alligator boots and polka-dot tie

Enter Mr Melvin Belli. Into the horrors of Bhopal, the mass death and torment of thousands, comes the extraordinary figure of one of America's leading lawyers, a courtroom whale proclaiming in his rough-cut way that he is here to bring justice and money to those poor little bastards who have suffered at the hands of those sons-of-bitches (Trevor Fishlock writes).

"This is an easy one," he says. "We'll knock the stuffing out of them. There is no doubt that we will win. For Union Carbide have absolute liability."

The only outstanding questions are the amount of the damages - we're going for \$15 billion (£12.1 billion) - and the place of the trial.

"We will try to get the case heard in California. I know my juries there and I like my judges. And it is my home and I like to see my two Italian greyhounds. They sleep with me."

Mr Belli arrived here yesterday, on his way to stricken Bhopal, breakfasted handsomely and held court for reporters. He cut a singular figure, a bulky white-haired man in a black suit with a red silk lining, his feet encased in black alligator skin boots, a white polka-dot tie lying across his aldermanic paunch.

Considering the circumstances, that he was on his way to a derelict community, numbed and moping after the greatest of industrial disasters, there was something grotesque about his American law court showbizzy, his flamboyance and intemperance language, his appearance as some sort of *Dans ex machina*.

"I had an idea I was going to have a piece of this case the morning I went to the office," he announced. "Any disaster anywhere in the world, someone will call us." Getting to the heart of the matter, he said: "I want to get this case tried in the US and get these Indian people American damages for the abuse of an American process."

He said his San Francisco law firm had represented many famous people in its time and he reeled off the names of film stars to make the point.

"But these people in India are nobodies. Some poor little bastard living in a railroad shack goes home to find his wife and child dead. Now Union Carbide have the effrontery to offer a \$... orphanage and a million dollars. It is a monumental scam."

"It is typical of the American philosophy. You can hear them saying: 'We gave a million for an orphanage. Man, we got out of that one easily.' Well, it won't wash."

It was a rather curious spectacle to see this almost stage-American figure being exposed on the "Ugly American."

Continued on back page, col 1

Jockey dies in Hong Kong

Brian Taylor, the jockey who won the 1974 Derby on Snow Knight, died in hospital in Hong Kong yesterday after a fall at Sha Tin racecourse on Saturday.

A spokesman at the hospital said that Taylor, aged 45, died without regaining consciousness. He received severe neck and brain injuries when his mount, Silver Star, stumbled at the end of the race and threw him head first on to the ground.

This was to have been one of Taylor's last races before retirement. He had finished his career in Britain with a win at Newmarket in August.

Silver Star had thrown a French jockey, Philippe Paquet, in February during exercise.

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Racing, page 31

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TUC attack on proposals for new personal pensions scheme

By Richard Thomson

The Government's plans for a new system of personal pensions came under strong attack yesterday from the Trade Union Congress, the Confederation of British Industry, and the National Association of Pension Funds.

It was claimed that the proposals would be no improvement on the present pensions system, and they criticized the possibility of the Government withdrawing some of the tax reliefs available on pension plans.

Opening the CBI's conference on pensions yesterday morning, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, reiterated the government's determination to create a better deal for "early leavers". The present pensions structure did not take sufficient account of the fact that most people changed jobs at least once in their lives, and at present anyone changing jobs lost out

on many of their occupational pension benefits.

Mr Ray Buckton, general secretary of Aslef, the train drivers' union, said that the TUC "was strongly opposed to the Government's proposals on personal pensions". New legislation on portable pensions would destroy the political consensus on pensions arrangements.

Mr Michael Pilch, speaking for the CBI, criticizing the piecemeal approach adopted in introducing the new pension system.

Mr Tome Heyes, chairman of NAPP, said that the Government's proposals could not only damage existing pension schemes but force more people to rely on state aid. Despite valid objections to the Government's proposals, the pensions industry had to accept that personal pensions eventually be introduced in some form, he added.

Welsh joint selection defeat for Owen

By Our Political Reporter

Social Democratic Party chiefs yesterday approved an agreement with the Liberals under which members of both parties will be involved in the selection of candidates for the next general election in more than a dozen Welsh seats.

The decision, a significant defeat for the views of Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, who has always been opposed to the principle of joint selection, came at a meeting of the party's main executive body, the national committee, in London.

Now, after yesterday's vote which has delighted the Liberals, members from both parties can select a candidate from either in the constituencies of Swansea West, Ynys Mon, Brecon and Radnor and Penbroke, and in nine others members of both parties will together choose a candidate for the party which has been allocated the seat under the deal. Those seats are: Cynwyd South, Gower, Alyn and Deeside, Neath, Delyn, Aberavon, Wrexham Cynffwrdd and Swansea East.

Jobs will be created, employers say

Moves to end wages councils

By Rupert Morris

The Institute of Directors' call for the abolition of wages councils is the latest of many efforts from the business lobby to persuade Government to eliminate what they believe to be a disincentive to employment.

But although Chambers of Commerce throughout Britain have been saying the same thing for several years, the Confederation of British Industry is more ambivalent, and earlier this year CBI members voted by a majority of three to one to campaign for reform rather than abolition.

Wages councils were started in 1909 by Sir Winston Churchill to eliminate "sweet shops". With three independent members, and equal trade union and employer representation, they fix annual pay rises for 2,700,000 people in industries where union organization remains weak and wages low, such as clothing, textile manufacture and catering.

The Department of Applied Economics at Cambridge University conducted a survey last year in industries where wages councils have ceased to operate, and concluded that their removal had produced no evidence of direct benefits, but significant evidence of an extension of low pay.

The Low Pay Unit, which is a keen supporter of wages councils, conducted an exercise which suggested that the abolition of wages councils would create 8,000 job opportunities

over five years - a paltry figure compared with the average monthly rise in unemployment.

But employers, particularly in small businesses, produce a steady stream of anecdotes about jobs that might have been if they were allowed to pay less than the level stipulated by wages councils. Their view is finding increasing favour with the Government, whose pay targets were upset twice last year by wages councils, first with a six per cent award for 130,000 snack bar workers, then with a 7.3 per cent settlement for 350,000 hotel and restaurant staff.

Ministers have held back, however, from any public commitment on the future of wages councils.

500 new jobs for Scots electronics factory

By Ronald Faux

A £25 million investment that will bring 500 new jobs to the electronics industry in Glenrothes, Fife, was announced yesterday by Hughes Micro Electronics, a subsidiary of the Hughes aircraft company of California, founded by Howard Hughes.

The expansion will be in the production of micro electronics components and systems and will bring the Hughes work force in Glenrothes to 1,100 by 1990. Many of the new staff will be recruited from local schools and colleges and from Scottish universities.

The announcement added to the impressive record of Locate in Scotland, the arm of the

Tory rebels line up to amend GLC Bill

By Philip Webster

The Government's decision to abolish the Greater London Council without putting in its place any form of authority to handle London-wide functions is to be challenged in the Commons by a group of senior Conservatives, including former Cabinet ministers.

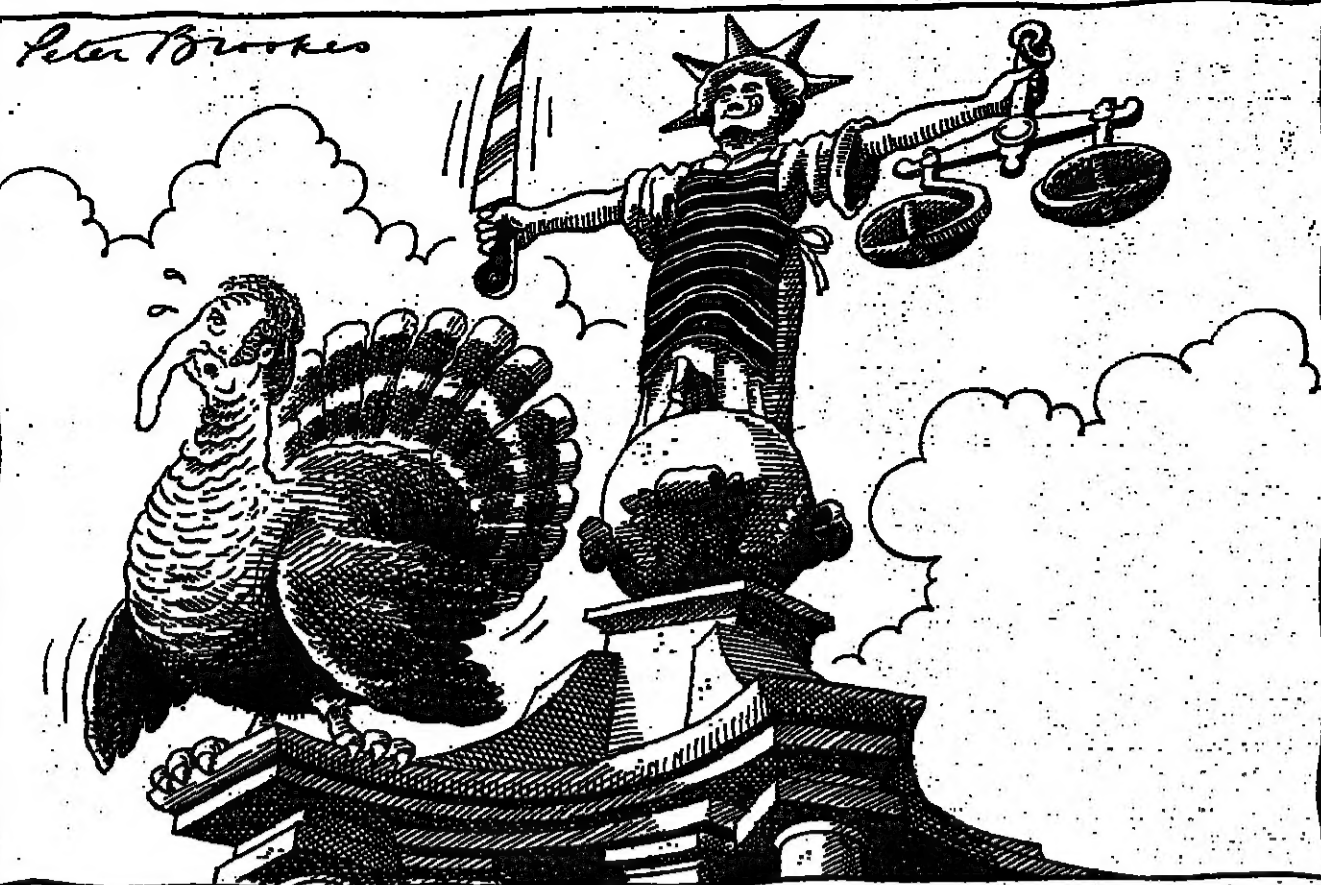
It faces its next serious backbench rebellion on the issue when Clause 1 of the Local Government Bill is scrutinized by the whole House tomorrow and Thursday before the rest of the measure is sent to a standing committee.

Mr Patrick Cormack, Conservative MP for Staffordshire South, has tabled an amendment which would provide for a directly elected authority representing the area administered by the GLC, its functions and powers to be determined by Parliament after a select committee inquiry.

Mr Cormack's amendment, which has the backing of Mr Geoffrey Rippon, Sir Ian Gilmour and Mr Keith Speed, among others, is certain to be opposed by the Government and will therefore almost certainly be defeated.

But its supporters are hoping for a sizeable Commons vote for it to strengthen the hand of Conservative peers who will be tabling a similar proposal when the Bill goes before the Lords in the spring.

The Lords substantially amended the so-called "paving" Bill during the last session. The attitude of the Labour Party is therefore crucial. Although it is fighting for the retention of the GLC and the metropolitan counties, it is in the delicate position of having to decide whether to back at an early stage an essentially "second best" solution, but one which realistically probably the most that could be achieved by the Bill's opponents during its passage.



Clergy and laity split on Masons

By Clifford Longley

Three-quarters of the Church of England clergy disapprove of their fellow Freemasons and only 13 per cent are in favour, according to a Gallup survey published yesterday.

This is markedly different from attitudes among the laity, 41 per cent of whom would allow Freemasons to be Freemasons, while only 34 per cent are opposed.

The survey, the first of its kind in the Church of England, found a generally conservative attitude to fundamental doctrines among the clergy, with the laity more liberal about such issues as the virgin birth and the resurrection.

Dr David Samuel, director of Church Society, which sponsored the survey, said that was the reverse of what had been expected. The principal findings of the Gallup poll were reported in *The Times* yesterday.

The question on Freemasons was one of a variety to investigate moral and social attitudes of clergy and laity, which generally revealed a significant division. The clergy were also more conservative in their attitudes to divorce and homosexuality.

Nearly two-thirds thought the church should never approve of homosexual acts, against just over half of the laity. Only 14 per cent of the clergy thought no action should be taken against a homosexual clergyman.

Among lay churchgoers, more than half were in favour of divorced people being allowed second marriage in church, a view held by only 21 per cent of the clergy.

The British Steel Corporation claimed yesterday that the miners' strike had wiped out one of its first profits for years. In the six months to the end of September the corporation's pre-interest profits of £27 million became a loss of £68 million as a result of the estimated £95 million impact of the dispute.

While steel output has not been affected by the strike, the corporation has suffered additional expense

Success for pit fire team

From Peter Davenport, Doncaster

A decision to seal off part of a pit where an underground blaze is raging putting hundreds of miners' jobs at risk, was delayed yesterday because of the success of a small team of fire fighters.

Working round the clock, 2,100ft below ground, the men are managing to contain the fire at Rossington Colliery, near Doncaster. Although according to one coal board official it was "like trying to put an oven out by spitting on the hot plate".

The fire, and its potential consequences, has fanned a major row between the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers at the pit. The board claimed the

union has ignored pleas to allow in striking miners to fight the fire, and the union accused management of exaggerating the seriousness in a propaganda exercise.

Automatic monitoring equipment at the pit first detected an increase in temperature on Friday evening in a roadway being driven to create a new coalface to replace one lost in May after an outbreak of spontaneous combustion.

If the area eventually has to be sealed off, it will mean the loss of £1 million of development machinery and extensive coal reserves.

The coal board said that

around 36 men were fighting the fire. They included management staff and a handful of working miners. Deputies, members of Nacods, have been prevented from crossing picket lines to join the operation, the board claimed, adding that they needed 150 miners to be sure of beating the blaze.

Yesterday Mr Jack Riley, the NUM branch secretary, said that the union would help in the fire-fighting only if police were removed for good from the pit gates, working miners at the colliery were withdrawn, and 24 dismissed strikers reinstated.

The board has rejected the offer as "industrial blackmail".

County to sue over policing bill

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Cambridgeshire's Police Committee has decided to sue Derbyshire County Council for nearly £900,000, said to be owed for additional police cover during the miners' dispute.

The clash between the two authorities has simmered throughout the autumn, after Mr Jack Barton, Cambridgeshire's director of finance, accused Derbyshire in September of refusing to pay but without legal grounds.

At the time more than £9 million was being withheld by Derbyshire from other authorities whose police forces had sent officers to the miners' dispute in the county. A council spokesman said 28 other police forces were involved.

The committee was said yesterday to be the first in the country to take legal action against Derbyshire. The committee will consult the Home Office before taking legal action in the new year.

A Derbyshire spokesman last night said it was its policy not to pay any other authorities as the council considered it to be the responsibility of the Government to meet the full cost.

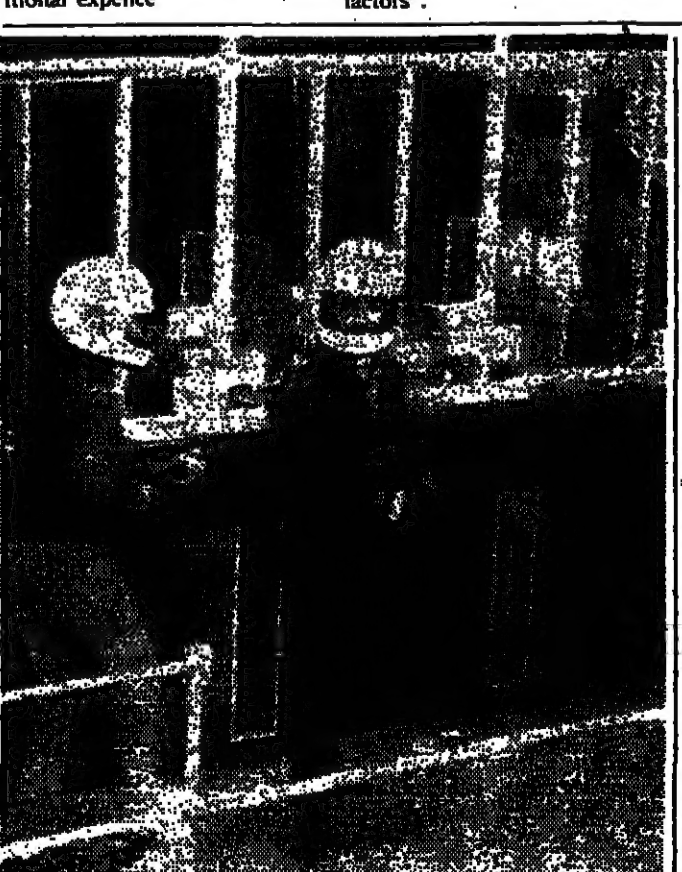
Miners' strike blamed for loss of BSC profit

The British Steel Corporation claimed yesterday that the miners' strike had wiped out one of its first profits for years. In the six months to the end of September the corporation's pre-interest profits of £27 million became a loss of £68 million as a result of the estimated £95 million impact of the dispute.

NCB criticized by engineering employers

Engineering employers last night condemned the National Coal Board's strategy during the 40-week miners' strike, and cautioned other employers against using an "unnecessarily provocative" stance.

Dr James McFarlane, director general of the Engineering Employers' Federation, said that the coal board's strategy appeared to be "too uniquely focussed on the economic factors".



Film trap: Kadir, left, and Mesut, robbing staff at gunpoint.

Camera traps raiders

A roving gang of four motorcycle bandits who staged lightning armed robberies was trapped by a camera during a £2,500 building society raid, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The leader, Alid Kadir, aged 24, of Clifton Road, Hackney, north-east London, and Umit Mesut, aged 23, of the same address, were captured on film when they seized money from terrified staff.

The court was told that the police identified the men and

West area dispute nearly over

The miners' strike is almost over at most of the 16 pits in the Western area, which covers Lancashire, Lancashire, north Wales and Cumbria, and they are all producing coal, the board said yesterday.

Eight out of every 10 miners are working in Lancashire's seven collieries, six out of every 10 in Lancashire, nine out of 10 at two collieries in North Wales, where the strike has collapsed, and all the miners at Haig colliery, Cumbria.

Stuart Stephenson, aged 21, a miner, of Sevenoaks Street, Huddersfield, who was identified from a police photograph of a crowd overturning a car at Eastington colliery, was jailed for four months at Teesside Crown Court. He admitted causing £3,000 damage.

Three striking miners were jailed for 60 days by Chesterfield magistrates for stoning three coal lorries and a coal board bus taking miners to work. Three younger strikers were sent to a detention centre for a similar period. All six admitted causing damage.

A total of 208 striking miners returned to work yesterday, the coal board said. That compares with 234 at the same time last week.

Parliament, page 4.

Royal links raise prices for furnishings

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Royal connections whetted appetite at Sotheby's sale of fine furnishings in Monaco on Sunday bringing a top price of 1.9 million French francs (£176,814) for a near Neoclassical marquetry table with ormolu mounts made by Leleu, almost certainly for Prince de Condé at the Palais Bourbon. In advance of his time the Prince helped to pioneer the taste for restrained classical designs in pre-Revolutionary Paris.

Two terracotta models of the famous *Chevaux de Marly* sold for 632,000 French francs (estimate Fr 200,000-300,000) or £55,991 to an American collector bidding by telephone. He was underbid by a European collector.

The equestrian statues were designed by Guillaume Coustou for the royal chateau at Marly but were later removed and now stand at the bottom of the

Sale room

Champs Elysees in Paris. The models for sale are thought to have been an early version of the design which the sculptor later adjusted.

The sale also included an important Italian porcelain dinner service made in the early nineteenth century for the Dutch king, William of Orange. It made Fr 666,200 (estimate Fr 500,000-200,000) or £41,256 to an American private collector. The sale of fine furnishings made £1.3 million with 16 per cent left unsold.

In London yesterday Chinese bronzes and headless Roman marbles hit the big time. At Christie's a rare gilt-bronze reliquary and cover, surmounted by a seven-storied stupa, looking a bit like a Thai pagoda and dating from the early Tang dynasty, was sold for £73,400 (estimate £50,000-£70,000) to Deydier, a Paris dealer.

Tories 'dominate' authorities

Health ministers are seriously abusing their powers of appointment to health authorities to produce a Conservative-dominated membership from which Labour supporters are increasingly excluded, Mr Michael Meecher, Labour's chief social services spokesman, said.

A survey of health authority members, in which Labour supporters provided information on 74 of the 192 district health authorities and nine of the 14 regional authorities, showed that 60 per cent of the districts had chairman seen as Conservative supporters.

Gowrie tackles paper mountain

Lord Gowrie, the minister responsible for the Civil Service, will announce today strict new controls on Whitehall's buying of stationery to prevent abuses such as the purchase by one department of enough carbon paper to last for more than 20 years.

Inquiry condemns police 'provocations'

By Peter Evans

The members of the inquiry into the death of Peter Wallington, professor of law, Lancaster University, chairman Mr John Alderson, former chief constable of Devon and Cornwall, Mr Larry Gostin, general secretary, National Council for Civil Liberties, Mrs Sarah McCabe, formerly of the Oxford University Centre for Criminological Research, Mr Ian Martin, general secretary, Fabian Society, Dr Christopher Mason, lecturer in international relations, Glasgow University, and member of Strathclyde Regional Council's police and fire committee.

The inquiry team said it was particularly concerned by a pattern of complaints: Assaults on pickets during picketing, on occasion causing them serious injury. Individuals travelling to or from picket lines being assaulted, without apparent provocation, by police officers. Deliberate damaging of the property, particularly the cars, of pickets travelling to or from picket lines.

"We should welcome further evidence, in particular of the outcome of investigations where such complaints have been set up." But the team accepted the need for firm action to prevent and quell disorder.

Referring to violence and threats of it to miners from within the community, the report says that the factors which have shaped police actions and objectives must be taken into account.

But the report says that one of the most disturbing aspects of the policing of the dispute is a small number of incidents in which rampaging groups of police officers, according to witnesses, have run through houses in pursuit of pickets, causing extensive damage to property and assaulting residents.

The principle reason for alienation towards the police was the belief that the police and the courts had been used to break the strike.

Of those arrested up to November 8 in England and Wales, no fewer than 17 per cent were not charged. To some extent that might reflect a commendably rigorous approach by charge officers towards evidence. "However, we are concerned that it also indicates that arrest has on occasion been used to remove people from the scene of trouble for a period rather than for its proper purpose of taking them into custody as a first step in the prosecution of an alleged offence."

Civil Liberties and the Miners' Dispute (First Report of the Independent Inquiry, National Council for Civil Liberties, 21 Tabard Street, London SE1 4LA: £1.50).

outh, 16, took LSI schoolteac

Renewed demands to close polytechnic

By John O'Leary of The Times Higher Education Supplement

Renewed demands were made yesterday for the closure of the Polytechnic of North London, after the decision of Dr David MacDowall, the director, to take early retirement, alleging political interference in the polytechnic's affairs by leaders of the Inner London Education Authority.

Dr MacDowall clashed with Mrs Frances Morrell, the leader of the IEA, over the handling of disciplinary proceedings against Mr Patrick Harrington, the National Front activist whose position as a student at the polytechnic has led to repeated disturbances throughout the year.

He opted to leave rather than initiate a complaint against Mr Harrington over remarks made in a television interview. As director, he was already involved in the hearing of a complaint on the same subject.

Yesterday Dr MacDowall disclosed that he had inquired about early retirement in May, when mass picketing of Mr Harrington's lectures was at its height.

Mr Morrell has refused to be drawn into a public debate, only Dr MacDowall's claims that she put pressure on him to commit contempt of court in an attempt to leave Mr Harrington, expelled. She said a statement issued yesterday: "I shall not respond to threats, he has made, save to say that many of them are completely untrue; in particular, the allegation that the IEA has asked him to behave with any kind of impropriety."

Computer title for schoolboy

Peter Chase, aged 15, of Comberton Village College, near Cambridge, yesterday became Young Computer Brain of 1984 for his idea for a navigation, rescue and information system for sailors and coastguards, computer equipment worth £2,000 in the competition, which was sponsored by Commodore and The Sunday Times. Entrants were asked for schemes in which computers would benefit society.

Smoking ban on London Tube

Smoking is to be banned completely from London's Underground system in the new year, apart perhaps from some surface stations and booking halls. Smoking in trains was banned last June.

Announcing the decision yesterday Dr Tony Ridley, head of London's Underground, said there was no evidence to connect last month's Oxford Circus fire with smoking but added that the London Fire Brigade favoured the ban.

Ronan point file delay queried

Mr Nigel Spearing, Labour MP for Newham South, whose constituency includes Ronan Point, has asked the Government to explain the delay in granting access to the 40 volumes of evidence of the public inquiry which took place in 1968.

He has tabled two questions which will be the subject of written answers tomorrow.

death crash with sentenced

plea for refused

Woman can stay

beach appeal

Mothers

Youth, 16, in death plunge took LSD supplied by schoolteacher, court told

A boy aged 16 plunged to his death from a high-rise block of flats after taking LSD supplied to him by a schoolteacher, a court was told yesterday.

The teacher, Richard Catherwood, aged 39, had set himself up as a drug dealer from his south London home and "drug abuse" and others were attracted to these premises, the judge said.

Mr Catherwood, an ILEA supply teacher since suspended from his post, was known as Dick, and the word was that Dick would sell to youngsters, and one was only aged 15, Mr Bates said.

Teenagers regularly called at his home to buy LSD, cocaine and cannabis, it was alleged.

Mr Catherwood, of Melborne Grove, East Dulwich, has denied seven charges, including supplying and offering drugs with intent to supply to another person.

Judge Norwood ordered that two prosecution witnesses aged under 18 should not be identified by the press, and that all young witnesses could write down their addresses in court.

Mr Bates said that between January 1983 and June this year, Mr Catherwood sold the three drugs from his home. The charges were up to £25 for a quarter of an ounce of cannabis, between £16 and £25 for a quarter of an ounce of LSD, or £3.50 for a quarter of a gramme of LSD. Mr Catherwood put the drugs into plastic bags, not made up by banks for money, Mr Bates said.

One teenager, whom the judge ordered should not be identified, started taking cannabis in early 1984, and LSD three or four weeks later.

He went with another youth, Shane Brady, to Mr Catherwood's home, where the teacher gave him a reefer and offered him cannabis at £24 to £25 a quarter of an ounce.

Mr Catherwood sold him some cannabis and said that he also dealt in LSD, Mr Bates said.

"That knowledge was to have tragic consequences in connection with this case."

A few days later the two youths returned to buy more cannabis and asked Mr Catherwood if he had LSD. He sold them the cannabis but on that occasion there was no LSD.

They returned on June 15 and asked Mr Catherwood for cannabis and LSD. He handed them cannabis and took out a bag containing purple hearts impregnated with LSD, Mr Bates said.

Shane Brady gave some of the LSD tablets to a friend, Lee Sawyer, aged 16.

The very next day, June 16, that young man, Lee Sawyer, fell to his death from the balcony of a high-rise flat at Overhill Road, East Dulwich, where he was living, Mr Bates said.

"Shortly before he fell he had taken LSD."

On June 17 the teenager, who cannot be identified, went to the police.

After watching Mr Catherwood's home from 6 pm to 10 pm and observing cars and goings, although apparently nobody was at home, police returned the next night and arrested two youths who bought cannabis. Police, with a search warrant, then entered.

Asked if he knew a young man had been killed taking drugs he had supplied, he said: "I can swear to you I did not supply him with any acid (LSD)." The hearing continues.



Word perfect: Susan Hampshire, the actress, outside the City University yesterday after receiving an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters for her distinguished achievements in acting and inspiring fellow dyslexia sufferers. (Photograph: John Voos).

Better diet urged for overweight millions

By Nicholas Timmins

Almost 40 per cent of British men and 32 per cent of women are overweight, according to a study published yesterday.

The first fully representative survey of height and weight, from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, shows that the average British male is 5ft 8½in and weighs 11st 8lb, while the average woman is just over 5ft 3in and weighs 9st 11lb.

But 39 per cent of men are overweight, on a formula which relates height to weight, and 6 per cent are obese. Among women, 32 per cent are overweight and 8 per cent obese. Among people aged between 20 and 24, 22 per cent of men and 21 per cent of women are overweight.

The survey of more than 10,000 adults showed that arthritis was more common among overweight women, and heart trouble more common among overweight men.

The report led Mr John Patten, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, to urge people to eat a healthier diet, cutting down on salt and fat and to eat more fibre-rich foods such as bread, fruit, cereals and vegetables.

A 30-year-old theory that taller women tend to marry into a higher socio-economic class receives some confirmation.

The study found that the shortest women were least likely to raise their class by marriage, and to a lesser extent taller women tended to marry into higher classes.

That applied particularly to women in their fifties and sixties, whose husbands had started their careers before the big expansion in white-collar jobs.

Among women under 30, those of average height or slightly above were most likely to have reached a higher or slightly above were most likely to have reached a higher socio-economic class by marriage, while the shortest women were most likely to have stayed in the same class.

Heights and Weights of Adults in Great Britain. (Stationery Office, £9.70).

Visitors to tourist sites spend £200m

By Staff Reporters

England's tourist attractions enjoyed a good year in 1983 with 174 million visits, the highest number since 1980. At least £200 million revenue was raised, much of it from Americans.

An increase of 33 per cent in North American tourists contributed to more admissions at attractions such as the Tower of London, up by 15 per cent, and Shakespeare's birthplace, up by 13 per cent.

Visitors had 2,340 attractions to choose from, and museums and art galleries (50.8 million) just edged out historic buildings (53.3 million) in popularity.

Wildlife attractions had 16.6 million visits, up eight per cent; gardens 7.5 million, a slight drop caused by a poor spring; and leisure and country parks nearly 49 million.

Of 49 new attractions which had 1.4 million visits between them, the most popular were the National Museum of Photography in Bradford and the Empire Exhibition in Windsor, which each had more than 200,000 visits.

Admissions to privately-owned houses were up by an average of five per cent in the summer, according to the Historic Houses Association.

Warwick Castle heads the list with 560,000 visitors, an increase of nine per cent on 1983, followed by Beaulieu (442,517).

| TOP ENGLISH TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, 1983 | |
|---|-------------|
| Admission charged | '000 visits |
| Tower of London | 2,182 |
| Madame Tussaud's | 1,996 |
| Jewel House (Tower of London) | 1,950 |
| Alton Towers | 1,800 |
| Wickstead Park | 1,250 |
| London Zoo | 1,239 |
| Kew Gardens | 1,038 |
| Thorpe Park | 820 |
| Chester Zoo | 801 |
| Roman Baths (Bath) | 798 |
| Admission free | |
| Blackpool Pleasure Beach | 6 to 7,000 |
| Science Museum | 3,346 |
| National Gallery | 2,679 |
| British Museum | 3,346 |
| Westminster Abbey | 2,750 |
| Natural History Museum | 2,500 |
| St Paul's Cathedral | 2,000 |
| Canterbury Cathedral | 2,000 |
| Vandana Museum | 1,818 |
| Sightseeing in 1983. Dept. of English Tourist Attractions, London SW1W 0DU (25 pps free). | |

ITV unveils £80m winter package

By Our Arts Correspondent

A seven-part drama series on the race across the Atlantic to the South Pole and a new twice-weekly soap opera from the makers of *Coronation Street* feature in independent television's £80 million winter schedules announced yesterday.

The *Last Place On Earth* tells the story of Captain Robert Scott's attempts to reach the South Pole before the Norwegian explorer, Roald Amundsen. The Central production was written by Trevor Griffiths and stars Martin Shaw as Scott.

The new soap opera, *The Practice*, from Granada, is based on the life of a modern Manchester inner-city health centre.

Independent television will also screen a tribute to the work of the film director, David Lean, made during the shooting of his latest film, *Passage to India*, and Anglia has made a thriller, *Cover Her Face*, based on the work of P.D. James.

London Weekend Television's long-awaited successor to the *The Professionals*, the American co-production, *McKenna and McKenna*, about a US detective joining Scotland Yard, will also make its debut.

Shoppers scramble for microcomputers

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

High technology products are having a sales boom in the high street as shoppers go on a pre-Christmas spending spree, creating a shortage of some microcomputers and microwave ovens.

Microwave ovens are selling at an unprecedented level: more than 100,000 a month, compared with about 55,000 in the summer. People are no longer frightened of the technology and are buying them as a main cooking aid. The Japanese are the dominant supplier and their cookers are selling at between £150 and £300.

Microcomputers, as expected, have been selling well and some shops report a shortage of some Sinclair and Commodore products. The new Spectrum + has been popular. According to Sinclair: "We've been selling the Spectrum + as fast as we've been able to produce it."

W H Smith has confirmed that demand for Sinclair products is outstripping supply. The Commodore start-up packs for new home computer users are also in short supply. The Sinclair products, however, appear to be the most popular among home computer buyers.

The sales of Sinclair's small flat-screen television were booming yesterday as shoppers responded to the weekend advertising campaign.

Audits of Great Britain (AGB), which monitors the sales of electrical goods in the high street has reported microcomputer sales at the beginning of November of 107,000. That figure is expected to rise towards Christmas.

Car death crash youth sentenced

A driver who killed Lady Eileen Caroline Crichton-Stuart, aged 27, daughter of the Marquess of Bute, when a car he had stolen, crashed into another car during a police chase, was yesterday ordered at Lincoln Crown Court to serve four-and-a-half years' youth custody.

Simon Goulding, aged 18, of Arpley, Leeds, admitted causing death by reckless driving, driving while disqualified and taking a car without consent.

Best plea for delay refused

George Best, the former footballer, yesterday failed in his attempt to have his appeal against a three-month jail sentence postponed until the new year. The appeal will be heard on December 17.

At Southwark Crown Court, Judge Butler, QC, rejected a request for an adjournment to allow Mr Best's doctor to prepare medical reports.

Woman can stay

A Hong Kong woman has won her fight to stay in Britain. Miss Jenny Fu, aged 27, was born of Chinese parents, learned yesterday that she will not be deported. Miss Fu, a trainee accountant in Cambridge, Cornwall, had to face an immigration appeals tribunal last week. More than 2,000 local people signed a petition asking the Home Office to let her stay.

Keach appeal

The appeals of Stacy Keach, the American actor and his secretary against jail sentences for smuggling cocaine worth £3,000 will be heard in the Court of Appeal in London next Tuesday by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane.

Some stores undecided about Sunday opening

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Later than usual, the shops are at last seeing the Christmas crowds, but how many stores will be opening on the two Sundays left before the seasonal break remained unclear yesterday.

After Debenhams, the department store group, announced on Friday that it would open on the two Sundays in England and Wales, except for Harvey Nichols and Hamleys, key stores were still waiting to see which others were prepared to run the risk of prosecution and fines of up to £1,000.

Woolworth, which has been considering opening about 65 city centre branches last night, is expected to open on the two Sundays.

British Home Stores will not open on the two Sundays. Nor will W H Smith, except for its Do It All chain which already opens on Sundays in some areas in England where local authorities have not taken court action.

Boots said that it had no plans for pre-Christmas Sunday opening and was opposed to any Sunday trading, although competitive pressure would have to be taken into account.

Among other chains which say they will not open on Sundays this month are Marks and Spencer and the John Lewis Partnership.

At Sears Holdings, whose outlets include Selfridges and the provincial Lewis's chain, Mr Leonard Sainer, joint chairman, said: "I would think we would not be opening on the two Sundays. But we have yet to make a final decision."

● Last Sunday was a very successful trading day for Sir Terence Conran's Heal's/Habitat store in Tottenham Court Road, central London, a spokesman for the group said (Tony Samstag writes).

Although trading figures are not available, the volume of business was probably comparable to an average Saturday. It was the first time that the store had opened on a Sunday, although other stores in the group routinely do so, and are, as routinely fined.

The National Consumer Council, which has been campaigning for changes in the Sunday trading law for some years, said: "The fact that so many customers were to be seen conniving at an illegal act, although it would not be an illegal act in Scotland, shows clearly the extent to which the law is an ass on this issue."

Parliament, page 4

House vouchers proposed for old people

By Our Social Policy Correspondent

Elderly people should be given a government voucher allowing them to choose where they spend the last days of their lives instead of being dumped in old people's homes on the orders of doctors and social workers.

That proposal, which it is said would expand the role of the private sector in providing residential homes for the old, is made in the journal, *Public Money*, published yesterday.

Ms Ellie Scrivens, of the Centre for the Analysis of Social Policy at the University of Bath, argues that many elderly people are capable of making up their own minds about where they are cared for.

Judge pulls out of McGlinchey case hearing

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The trial of Dominic McGlinchey ended suddenly after 45 minutes yesterday when the judge disqualified himself from hearing the case.

Lord Justice Kelly withdrew from the case at Belfast Court because five years ago he had presided at a trial which had a peripheral bearing on the prosecution of Mr McGlinchey.

The trial resumed this morning under another judge.

Mr McGlinchey, aged 30, the first person extradited from the republic to Northern Ireland to face an alleged terrorist offence, is accused of murdering Mrs Hesta McMullan, aged 63, the mother of a police reservist at Toomebridge co Antrim, seven years ago.

Court told of badger hunt with spades

The practice of badger hunting was outlined at Derby Crown Court yesterday when five men found guilty of digging for the protected animals in a Derbyshire wood appealed against their convictions.

The men, from Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire, were originally prosecuted in a private action brought by the Derbyshire Naturalists' Trust. They were convicted under sections 1 and 2 of the Badgers Act 1973.

Mr Dudley Bennett, appearing for the trust, said yesterday that the sett at Shining Cliff Woods at Ambergate, Derbyshire, was a "classic badger sett".

He said the methods used in digging for badgers included terrier dogs and bleeper devices planted in the dogs' collars so the hunters could track them.

"When the terrier stops it is significant because it means he has found a badger, which is a fearsome and powerful animal which will stand its ground. A fox, however, can be expected to behave quite differently. One would expect a fox to bolt and not stand its ground when faced by a dog."

"There were no nets or firearms in the possession of the appellants but there was an abundant supply of spades," he said. "We say that their purpose was to take a badger and that their explanation that they were after foxes can be rejected."

Four of the men, Philip Harrison, aged 31, Kevin Baines, aged 30, Paul Cartwright, aged 43, and Lewis Edwards, aged 38, were each fined £500 by Alfreton magistrates last May. The fifth man, David Morris, aged 22, was given a conditional discharge.

The hearing continues today.

Sex motive in killing of girl, 14

Police hunting the killer of Lisa Hession, aged 14, now believe she was the victim of a sex attack.

Her body was found 200 yards from her home in Bonnywell Road, Leigh, Greater Manchester, on Saturday night. She had been a party of two miles away at 10.30 pm because she had promised her mother that she would be home on time.

Det. Supt. Terence Millard, who is leading the hunt, said yesterday that the police had ruled out robbery. He thought Lisa was killed when her clothing, most probably her T-shirt, was curled tightly round her throat. She had been "very roughly handled".

Mrs Christine Hession said yesterday that during her frantic search for her daughter she walked past the alleyway where Lisa's body was lying. "If I had looked in perhaps I could have done something. I don't know. It is just knowing I walked past three times, and could have helped her."



Eye-opener: Mr John Patten, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, choosing frames at a Woolworth store in central London, yesterday, the day opticians' monopoly on the sale of spectacles ended. (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

L-test table aims to curb 'cowboys'

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Unqualified "cowboy" driving instructors whose pupils consistently fail their tests will be put out of business if the Department of Transport accepts recommendations for wide-ranging reforms of the test procedure.

The most far reaching is the publication of regular league tables showing the pass rates for each instructor within a locality. That would enable customers to choose only the most successful and lead to the elimination of the worst, some of whom are believed to have failure rates of 80 per cent.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, is understood to be in favour of league tables.

The reforms are proposed in the Rayner scrutiny, a report prepared by Lord Rayner, chairman of Marks and Spencer, who was at the time a special adviser to Mrs Margaret Thatcher. She was particularly concerned that of the two million driving tests taken annually, more than a million are failures.

The report was submitted to the department in September 1983 and its officials have been studying it ever since. It was published last month.

Last night, a department spokesman said: "There is still a long way to go before we reach the decision-making stage. We still have to consult all the interested parties."

But Mr Peter Russell, general secretary of the Driving Instructors Association, which claims to be the largest of its type in the world, said: "We have already had unofficial talks with the department and we are very confident that all but a handful of the Rayner recommendations will be accepted. I would expect league tables to come into operation by the spring of 1986."

"That would mean that the days are numbered for the cowboy instructor who claims pass rates of 98 per cent but no one can check at present."

Tour firm to cut coach fleet

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Wallace Arnold, the tour operating company which is part of the Leeds-based Barr & Wallace Arnold Trust, is phasing out a third of its coach operation in Britain and cutting back on nearly a quarter of its workforce.

The Wallace Arnold coach fleet is being reduced by about 100 to 200. Around 200 jobs will be lost.

Mr Ron Crowther, the finance director, explained that the cut-back was because of lack of demand for shorter coach trips. He added: "We are one of the oldest names in the coach business for holidays, going back to the middle thirties, and perhaps we kept going, too long, the old-style trips to the coast. Now everybody has cars."

But Wallace Arnold is not cutting back on its main coaching holidays. Its continental touring programme, announced within the past fortnight, is claimed to be as large as this past summer season. Continental tours account for about half the company's holidays.

The company has raised the prices of its 1985 holidays by an average of 5 per cent. Air travel packages offered by many tour operators are up by at least 15 per cent with lower increases on coach holidays.

In the seven months to last July, the trust improved its pre-tax profits but the holiday and travel division registered a sharp profit decline which was described by the company as "disappointing". It had carried more holidaymakers but profit margins had been squeezed.

PARLIAMENT DECEMBER 10 1984

Polls to close at 9pm

Brittan rejects call for telephone tapping inquiry

CND COMPLAINT

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, refused to institute an inquiry into allegations of telephone tapping and interference with the mail of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) when Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, asked him to do so in a private notice question in the Commons.

Mr Kaufman (Manchester, Gorton, Lab) wanted an assurance that CND was not being spied on or listened into by "Big Brother" or "Big Sister".

Mr Brittan said he was satisfied that the arrangements set out in the White Paper, *The Interception of Communications in Great Britain*, were strictly applied. He was concerned, the complaints about the provision of postal and telephone services were matters for the Post Office and British Telecom whose duty it was, in the first instance, to investigate any allegations of improper conduct on the part of their staff.

Mr Kaufman asked: Has he been in contact with Sir Ronald Dearing, Chairman of the Post Office, following the disclosure that he has established that CND correspondence has been tampered with substantially and without paying tribute to him for acting so promptly in taking these inquiries with appropriate seriousness?

Will he categorically assure the House he has approved no warrants authorising phone tapping of CND numbers? Why is he so sure that

covert action unknown to himself has not been taken?

Will he state clearly that CND, whatever he thought of its views, is a legitimate organisation openly pursuing legitimate objectives?

Mr Brittan: I join him in complementing Sir Ronald Dearing for dealing in a responsible way with the complaints made about Post Office services.

I will follow exactly the practice followed by Mr Merlyn Rees, the former Home Secretary, and all previous Governments, irrespective of party, in neither confirming nor denying the existence of authorised interceptions in a particular case, whatever the circumstances. But I can certainly assure him I would authorise intervention only in the case where the criteria set out in the White Paper are clearly met.

With regard to the question of unauthorised interception, I have no evidence or reason to believe it was done, and that would not be said lightly.

I do not think it is for me to legitimise CND or otherwise, but peaceful political campaigning to change the mind of the Government and people generally about the validity of nuclear disarmament, unilateral or otherwise, is an entirely legitimate activity which does not fall within the strict criteria of the White Paper.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C): As CND seems to pursue policies which are indistinguishable from the policies of the Kremlin, they should be kept under surveillance.

Will he categorically assure the House he has approved no warrants authorising phone tapping of CND numbers? Why is he so sure that

Kaufman: CND is a legitimate organisation

Mr Merlyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab): I accept what he has said, but because CND says things with which many people disagree does not make it a subversive organisation. Something did go wrong and to clear the matter up there is to be a report by the Post Office. That should be presented to the Commons.

As long as an aura of what went wrong is around people will not agree with the Home Secretary or with me.

Mr Brittan: Plainly something did go wrong and I agree that the Post Office inquiries are worthwhile and important.

It is already clear that two of the things that went wrong were a Post Office machine and the quality of packing by CND.

After the statement had been repeated in the House of Lords by Lord Elton, Minister of State, Home Office, Lord Mischow (Lab) asked about a commitment given by the Government during a debate in the House of Lords on the Telecommunications Bill, to introduce legislation relating to the right of privacy of individual citizens.

Lord Elton replied: Legislation has been promised early and I can confirm that we shall shortly be publishing a White Paper indicating the scope of the legislation which we will be introducing in the course of this session of Parliament.

Check to prevent Bhopal-type disaster

ENVIRONMENT

As soon as news of the Bhopal disaster came through the Secretary of State for Environment (Mr Patrick Jenkin) had asked for an inventory of all similar substance in the United Kingdom. Mr William Waldegrave, Under Secretary of State for Environment, informed the Commons.

My first advice is (he said) that these substances are not manufactured in the United Kingdom but are stored in various places. We are checking on the security arrangements.

During exchanges following his report on the recent EEC Environment Council meeting, Mr Waldegrave said the Government still intended to reduce next year the amount of lead allowed in petrol.

He said the Council agreed on a directive calling for the introduction of unleaded petrol throughout the Community not later than 1993, or even earlier.

A high-level working group of officials would report by the end of January on alternative ways of further reducing polluting emissions from cars.

A directive on air quality standards for nitrogen dioxide was agreed by the Council. The agreement was also reached on the funding and legal basis for the first phase of an information system of environmental data in the Community. Four other directives on emissions from large plants, wastes from the titanium dioxide industry, the recycling of beverage containers and environmental assessment were not agreed.

He added that the Council accepted a British proposal to find ways of ensuring that environmental issues were taken into account in the Community's agricultural policies. It had expressed its concern about the recent disaster in Bhopal.

Dr David Clark, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said the Government must make all necessary help available to the people of Bhopal.

It serves as a timely reminder (he added) of just how dangerous chemical plants are and, in our constant efforts to monitor nuclear plants, we must be vigilant on conventional ones as well.

'Prosecute West End stores'

SHOPS ACT

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said he would move a Bill to introduce a new offence of deliberate flouting of the Sunday trading laws by some major London stores which had opened for trading yesterday.

He said the opening of the stores was a violation of the Shops Act 1950.

They did so knowingly (he said) and blatantly. These stores took their unlawful action in anticipation of the coming of a Bill which does not use the word "shop" but which a White Paper has not yet been issued.

Two weeks ago the Prime Minister had told the Carlton Club that he would not support a Bill which was not heroic to flout the law of the land as if they still struggled in a quagmire where civilisation had yet to be built.

Does that (he asked) apply to Heals as well as to the National Union of Mineworkers? Does it apply to Habitat as well as to the Transport and General Workers' Union?

Those who had flouted the law yesterday had said openly that they intended to do so again on specific occasions before Christmas. The Prime Minister had not condemned this breach of the law of the land (Labour cheers). Neither had the Home Secretary (Mr Leon Brittan) who was in the Chamber. Was there one law for miners and another for those who flouted the law?

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) rejected Mr Kaufman's request for an emergency debate.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said Mrs Thatcher had consistently let everyone on the road to obey the law.

Heavy lorries

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, said in a Commons written reply that it would be a matter of policy for the Government to maintain the weight limit for heavy lorries on United Kingdom roads at 38 tonnes.

TEXTILES

A major new textile finishing project at Newtown, Powys, and an associated engineering unit in North Wales, bringing several hundred additional jobs were being announced by Laura Ashley Ltd.

Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said in 'The Commons'.

Mr Edwards, replying to Mr Keith Radford (Delyn, C), who asked for an assurance that the changed pattern of regional aid would not prevent them attracting companies like Laura Ashley which might otherwise go to Holland because of the attractive aid packages available there.

Mr Edwards said that Mr Radford's area remained one of those receiving the highest level of assistance.

There had been strong competition for the project from Holland and he was particularly pleased that the various authorities had been able to put together a package attractive enough to ensure that Laura Ashley Ltd had taken that decision.

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He called for a debate on acid rain soon, as promised and welcomed the decision to investigate ways of monitoring the environmental impact of agricultural policies.

The Government's intention still (he asked) to reduce the level of lead in petrol to 0.15 grammes per litre in 1985?

The omission from the statement of the date for requiring unleaded petrol to be used in cars was a mistake, the statement was merely misleading.

Mr Waldegrave said the Council was not debating a directive on unleaded petrol in new cars. The directive was intended to bring in a reduction from 0.4 grammes to 0.15 grammes per litre next year, and would welcome any move by companies to reduce lead in petrol before the directive's final date.

Mr Peter Hain (Wentworth, Lab) said the directive's final date was the 1st January 1993. He said the directive's final date was the 1st January 1993.

When Mr Hain asked the Government to set the date for the introduction of unleaded petrol, he was told that the Government was not yet in a position to do so.

Mr Waldegrave: The disaster reminds us what a good record we have in the chemical industry has had over the years. Fylborough was the worst disaster, but it was two orders of magnitude less than the Bhopal disaster in India.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham City Centre, C) asked the Government to set the date for the introduction of unleaded petrol, he was told that the Government was not yet in a position to do so.

Mr Waldegrave: It would be wrong for me to make any statement on the possibility of a disaster.

The latter point is sensible. British Governments of both parties have taken the lead in the EEC in looking at the external affairs of trade in chemicals and products, including chemicals, and we will maintain that.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on EEC budget for 1985. Lord C. Food and Environment Protection Bill, committee, second day.

Pledge to residents of Hong Kong

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government intended to comply fully with its obligations under the 1981 convention on the reduction of Statelessness. Lady Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in opening a debate in the Lords on the Anglo-Chinese agreement on the future of Hong Kong.

The draft legislation which the Government would bring before the House would include provisions enabling it to ensure that any British national in Hong Kong who would otherwise have become stateless as a result of these arrangements would retain a form of British nationality.

It would also enable provisions to be made for any children of ex-British dependent territories citizens who would otherwise be born stateless to acquire British nationality. These ex-British dependent territories citizens whom the Chinese Government did not regard as its nationals and who had no other nationality would not be left stateless and neither would their children.

Those who on June 30 1997 were British dependent territories citizens who would otherwise be born stateless to acquire British nationality. These ex-British dependent territories citizens whom the Chinese Government did not regard as its nationals and who had no other nationality would not be left stateless and neither would their children.

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London's third airport

Government stays silent on inquiry report's proposals on air traffic

The long-awaited report of the inquiry into London's third airport was published yesterday with recommendations that both Stansted and Heathrow be expanded to cope with expected demand to the year 2000 and beyond (Michael Baily, Transport Editor, writes).

It is the third inquiry since 1965 and the first to recommend expansion at Stansted. But the Government remained studiously silent on its conclusions yesterday, and a

policy decision is not expected for several months.

Mr Graham Eyre QC, who conducted the three-year inquiry, concludes that extra airport capacity must be provided for London by 1990 and Stansted is the only place where this can be done. But Heathrow's position as the world's leading international airport must also be preserved and enhanced, as argued in following extracts from the 189-page summary.

Remedies needed by 1990

The growth of passenger demand will continue into the foreseeable future, insofar as that demand arises in the South-east, it should be met by the provision of additional capacity within the region. Insofar as demand arises in the rest of the UK, a substantial part of the need can and should be met at the airports outside the South-east, some of which have an extremely important role to play.

The need to maintain and enhance the unique international status and importance of the London airports system as a whole cannot be achieved unless there is full utilization of Heathrow which is and should continue to be the dominant airport in the system. In addition the opportunity should now resolutely be seized to cure a number of grievous ills and shortcomings at Heathrow. Failure would result in serious deleterious consequences for both the system and the nation.

Present and planned capacity in the London airports system will be insufficient to meet demands beyond the present decade and additional capacity will be required no later than 1990.

Only Stansted can provide additional capacity to meet demand in the early to mid-1990s. Subject to an unequivocal declaration of intention on the part of government to limit the future growth of Stansted and the imposition of appropriate conditions, the necessary planning permission to enable Stansted to be developed to 15 million passengers a year should be granted as expeditiously as possible.

From the outset, development of Stansted should be planned to be capable of providing an ultimate capacity equivalent to that which can be accommodated on the airport's single runway: approximately 25 million passengers a year.

There are compelling reasons - unacceptable urban growth north-east of London; handicaps to defence requirements;



Main recommendations

1. Stansted should be developed from its present capacity of 400,000 passengers to 15 million passengers a year by 1990 through the addition of a new terminal. Further growth to 25 million passengers by the addition of a second terminal should be allowed thereafter, but the Government should give a firm and irrevocable undertaking that no second runway, increasing capacity to 50 million a year, would ever be built. A new high-quality rail link to central London should be approved at an early date.

2. Capacity at Heathrow should be increased from 28 million passengers a year now to 38 million by the addition of Terminal Four next year, and to 53 million by the addition of Terminal Five by about 1995. As an immediate step, the Perry Oaks sewage works should be removed.

A direct British Rail link from Heathrow Central to central London should be provided, whether or not T5 is built, and T5 should be linked to the London Regional Transport Piccadilly Line. A working party should be set up to recommend on improved road links around Heathrow and into central London. The unjustified limitation on flights at Heathrow should be lifted.

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and possible closure of Luton - why a second runway at Stansted should not be developed under any circumstances. No planning permission should be granted prior to the making of an unequivocal declaration by the Government.

"I was left in no doubt that the air transport and civil aviation industry and interests in the UK were of extreme importance and that the general approach of seeking to meet the demand for additional airport capacity in the right place, by the right means, and at the right time, was clearly in the national interest."

It would be prudent to ensure that additional passenger terminal capacity for London should become available no later than 1990-91.

A long-term strategy for the London area airports should be based on the requirement for a

capacity to accommodate an addition to existing and planned passenger capacity of some 40 million a year in order that need could be met before and after the year 2000 as, when, and if it arises.

There is no easy route for national airport policy to follow and any decision will be perceived as unacceptable by a large number of reasonable people. However, that unacceptable fact should not dissuade government from taking decisive action as expeditiously as possible.

In the circumstances, there is no room or justification for the use of any mechanism which has the effect of artificially depressing existing runway capacity at Heathrow or elsewhere. Stansted is the only airport at which additional capacity can be provided in or about 1990.

The case put for Stansted

To ensure the future success of Stansted, a high-quality, rail link meeting stringent criteria should be provided at the outset, and the Government should declare its commitment to the provision of such a link contemporaneously with any decision in favour of airport expansion.

The Greater London Council believes that unmanageable problems would emerge in inner London and the outer north-east of Greater London at a level of approximately 25 million to 30 million passengers a year at Stansted even with a high-quality rail link. I accept that judgement.

Air noise is almost certainly the most abhorred consequence of airport development but there would be problems to a greater or lesser degree wherever substantial additional aircraft activity occurred. There is no doubt that more people would be affected by more air noise in the Stansted area. If airport expansion were to take place and in some locations the deterioration in the noise climate would be significant.

On the other hand, broad judgement suggests that, in relative terms, the number of people significantly affected would be small. Comparison with the situations at Heathrow, Gatwick and Birmingham serve to demonstrate the validity of such conclusions.

In all the circumstances proposals to expand Stansted should not be rejected on the grounds of adverse consequences in the context of air noise. The effect of airport development would require at most 17,000 additional dwellings and the effect on the local labour market and on local employees would not present serious problems.

The expanded airport would not contribute significantly to the problems of pollution. Expansion will involve the construction of massive buildings, which would, in the ordinary course of events, be so alien to the countryside setting as to be unacceptable. Extensive landscaping would mitigate visual consequences.

The provision of further capacity in the South-east will not deleteriously affect the regions or their airports in any significant respect, and there are

The overall economy of the local area and of surrounding areas would benefit from airport development. These benefits might be so widespread as to include north-east London and North Kent where problems of unemployment are and will continue to be serious.

Harlow would be an obvious candidate to accommodate relatively substantial urbanization. Some airport-related residential development would have to be accommodated at Bishop's Cleeve.

Stansted airport is located in an area of agricultural land of high quality and versatility which is intensively and skillfully farmed and is subject to important national, regional and local planning policies that seek to prevent the loss of land to other forms of development.

In the ordinary course of events, the loss of agricultural land of such quality on the scale involved would not be countenanced.

In the circumstances the loss of agricultural land and airport-related urban development does not justify rejection of the expansion proposal. Further expansion of Stansted to provide the second runway would, however, have consequences for agricultural interest so grave and manifest now that a decision to abandon the safeguard protection and any prospect of a second runway would be fully justified.

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no grounds that would justify an embargo on the provision of such capacity. The inspector specifically rejects Maplin, Yarmley Chase, and Severnside as possible alternatives to Stansted.

Air noise is a modern curse from which the unfortunate inhabitants of the Heathrow area have been required to suffer over a long period. There will be substantial improvement in the noise climate in the next few years but conditions will still be worse than at any other location in the UK.

In special terms Heathrow compares unfavourably with other airports in the London system and certain continental airports which represent serious potential competitors. The relative position of Heathrow in terms of space and other important facilities will seriously deteriorate in the future so as to prejudice its status as the world's foremost international airport. Scant regard appears to have been had to this critical situation.

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The case put for Heathrow

Successive governments have failed to apply concerted and comprehensive efforts to providing proper surface access to Heathrow and in consequence conditions on its roads and particularly on the M4/A4 corridor are unacceptable.

If remedial action is now taken on a comprehensive and concerted basis improved conditions could result in the mid-1990s when the operation of terminal 5 is likely to start. Such remedial action should be taken in any event and a working party should be set up to achieve identifiable improvements.

If a fifth terminal is developed the London Regional Transport, Piccadilly, underground line should be extended to it and a direct and dedicated British Rail link should be provided in any event.

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In special terms Heathrow compares unfavourably with other airports in the London system and certain continental airports which represent serious potential competitors. The relative position of Heathrow in terms of space and other important facilities will seriously deteriorate

Pretoria cancels arrest orders for Durban 3 to steal Tutu's thunder

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa yesterday cancelled arrest orders issued against three anti-apartheid campaigners sheltering in the British consulate in Durban and at least 11 other activists imprisoned without trial under the preventive detention provisions of Section 28 of the Internal Security Act.

Six of the 11, however, were immediately released and charged in a Durban court with treason, which carries a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison, against five other activists who helped to organize the "stayaway".

The timing of yesterday's announcement, coinciding with the presentation of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize to Bishop Desmond Tutu in Oslo, seemed fairly obviously intended to steal some of the bishop's thunder.

Similarly, the earlier release of the trade unionists came on the same day that President Reagan received the bishop in the White House and against a background of anti-apartheid demonstrations in Washington and other American cities.

The President later claimed that the freeing of the union leaders was a victory for his "quiet diplomacy" towards South Africa, which has recently been sharply criticized for being too lenient by Republican and Democratic congressmen.

Pretoria's aim seems to be to spike the guns of foreign criticism which have been directed mainly at the principle of detention without trial and less at the nature of the offences

be if the three men decided to stay in the consulate for fear that they might face a treason charge.

Pretoria's move follows the release at the end of last week of 11 trade unionists arrested after the "stayaway" from work in the Transvaal on November 5 and 6, and the simultaneous decision to lay charges of subversion, which carry a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison, against five other activists who helped to organize the "stayaway".

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it is possible to be charged with under South Africa's draconian security laws.

Treason and subversion, for example, are defined so broadly as to cover activities which would not be considered crimes under most civilized systems of law. Foreign governments have generally not addressed this issue, limiting themselves to the demand that detained persons should be charged or set free.

Pretoria can now claim to have gone some way to satisfying that demand. However, more than 150 other people are thought still to be held without trial under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act, which permits police to hold suspects indefinitely for interrogation.

Those released yesterday from Section 28 detention were Mr Popo Molefe, Mr Patrick Lekota and Mr Ram Saloojee, all leading UDF members, and Mr Haroon Patel and Mr Muntu Myeza, senior officials of the rival Azanian People's Organization, the main black consciousness body.

The men released and then charged with treason are Dr Essop Jassat, president of the Transvaal Indian Congress, a UDF affiliate, Mr Aubrey Mokoena and Mr Curtis Nkondo, both vice-presidents of the UDF, Mr George Sewpersadh president of the Natal Indian Congress, and Mr M J Naidoo and Mr Mewa Ramgobin, members of its executive.

Weinberger battles on arms cuts

From Our Own Correspondent Washington

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, returned to his office in the Pentagon yesterday from a week's travels abroad to face what many believe to be the toughest battle of his four-year career.

Mr Weinberger is facing massive pressure from Republican and Democratic congressmen, as well as from senior members of the Administration, to scale back the planned rate of increase in defence spending over the next four years.

Even President Reagan hinted during a press conference on Friday that he may have to trim the defence budget as part of a package of drastic cuts aimed at halving the present \$200 billion federal deficit by 1988.

Mr Weinberger has vowed to resist attempts to curb the rate of increase in defence spending, this year as well as over the next four years. Mr David Stockman, the budget director, has proposed defence savings of \$8 billion in fiscal 1986 rising to \$30 billion in 1988.

Although there has been a massive increase in the Pentagon's budget over the past four years as President Reagan has sought to modernize strategic and conventional defences, Mr Weinberger has argued that defence allocations have been consistently lower than the amounts he requested.

He maintains the Pentagon has trimmed \$116 billion - which would have been spread over five years - from its requests since 1981. He will tell the President this week that any further cuts could undermine American security.

Mr Reagan will give him a sympathetic hearing and will himself be reluctant to place new limits on the rate of military growth. However, despite the package of \$34 billion in non-defence spending cuts which he presented to his cabinet colleagues last week, he is still \$8 billion short of his target of \$42 billion in budget cuts for fiscal 1986.

Furthermore, he knows he faces a tough battle with Congress over his package of spending freezes, cuts and in some cases elimination of entire programmes.

Because President Reagan has placed social security "off limits" and insists on keeping his election pledge not to raise taxes, he is having to propose larger-than-expected cuts in programmes such as Medicare and farm and transit subsidies as well as calling for a 5 per cent pay cut for federal employees.

Shultz's mission to explain and listen

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, left here last night for consultations with Nato allies on the meeting he will have with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, in Geneva next month on resuming nuclear arms control negotiations.

His first stop today will be Britain, where he is to see Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, with whom he will prepare for Mrs Margaret Thatcher's talks with President Reagan at Camp David on December 22.

The two foreign ministers will then travel to Brussels for the Nato foreign ministers' meeting, after which Mr Shultz will go to West Germany for a meeting with Chancellor Kohl.

At today's talks Mr Shultz will advise the Foreign Secretary on discussions taking place within the Administration on the US position at the Geneva meeting.

That position is still being formulated, because opposing factions in the State Department and the Pentagon are battling over how conciliatory or tough the US should be at Geneva and the ensuing negotiations.

President Reagan has proposed an "umbrella" forum under which separate rounds of talks dealing with nuclear

missiles, space weapons and other arms issues can take place. The US is particularly interested in making progress on reducing medium and long-range nuclear missiles.

The Soviet Union walked out of the intermediate-range (INF) missile talks in Geneva over a year ago.

However, President Chernomir has given top priority to negotiating the demilitarization of space and has proposed a moratorium on the testing of anti-satellite weapons.

The US has rejected the Soviet demand at the outset of such talks, but the Administration is willing to discuss a moratorium once the negotiations have got under way.

However, Administration hawks are opposed to any kind of moratorium.

Mr Shultz is anxious to hear the views of the US's Nato allies about what position it should take to the Geneva meeting. He also wants to establish a system of close consultation.

During his meetings this week, and particularly at today's session with Sir Geoffrey, Mr Shultz will also discuss tougher and more unified action to deal with terrorism.

Mr Shultz is a hawk on terrorism and has called for retaliatory action against terrorist groups.

Lebanon hardens its line on Israeli withdrawal

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Mr Richard Murphy, the United States Middle East envoy, came to Lebanon yesterday to try to break the deadlock in negotiations aimed at ending Israel's occupation of southern Lebanon.

But the first reaction to his efforts, from Mr Rashid Karami, the Lebanese Prime Minister, was a reiteration of his country's initial bargaining position that United Nations peacekeeping troops should be deployed along the border with Israel after its withdrawal. The Israelis want the UN forces farther north.

Mr Murphy talked to Mr Karami and President Gemayel at the presidential palace here after meeting Israeli officials at the weekend. He also was expected to visit Syria, which maintains troops in the north and east of Lebanon.

Mr Murphy said he was "hopeful" that his talks with both sides would encourage some movement in the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations in the

south Lebanon town of Naqoura. But Mr Karami said: "We see no need for extending the jurisdiction of the UN forces north of the Litani river, although we are anxious to cooperate with these forces and appreciate the services they render to Lebanon." The Litani is about 15 miles north of the Israeli border. The present Israeli occupation zone extends to the Awali river, about 37 miles north of the border.

Mr Karami's statement followed by several hours a report from Jerusalem that the director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Mr David Kimche had told a visiting Danish Foreign Ministry official, Mr Otto Erling Moeller, that Israel would consider a unilateral withdrawal if there was no progress in the negotiations by December 20.

Meanwhile, the ninth session of talks between Israel and Lebanon were under way in Naqoura. The two teams agreed to meet again on Thursday.

The Kuwaiti Airbus hijack Hostages were tied up, beaten and burnt

Tehran (Reuters) - Passengers freed from the Kuwaiti airliner at Tehran airport said yesterday the Arab hijackers of the plane tortured US and Kuwaiti hostages and used tomato sauce to stage fake deaths.

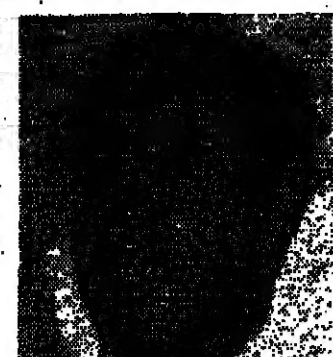
Two US officials were killed in the six-day drama, which began when the plane was seized between the Gulf and Pakistan and ended on Sunday night after disguised Iranian security guards stormed it and arrested the hijackers.

The national news agency Irna said Mr John Costa, an American businessman from New York, was the hostage most severely beaten and had cigarette burns on his face from two "interrogation" sessions with the hijackers.

Mr Costa, quoted by the agency, said he had been beaten "in most places... What they wanted was for me to say I was from the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency)..."

Neil Beeston, the British maintenance engineer, who lives in Windlesham, said several Kuwaiti and American hostages had been beaten and burned with cigarette ends.

Mr Beeston said in a telephone interview from Teh-



Captain Clark: "The hijackers needed me"

ran with the Press Association in London. "We were all resigned to the fact that we were going to die. I think the folks at home suffered more than we did. They must have died a thousand times."

"There was never any time when there could be an attempt to overpower the hijackers. They were too well organized. Nobody on board knew what the hijackers' main demands were. They all spoke in Arabic, of course."

"We were brought food and we could read newspapers, provided you sat still and kept your mouth shut. One minute it was quite cordial then the next, there would be another incident - a beating, some screaming. It was psychological torture."

He said that, at one stage, the hijackers took two Kuwaitis to the plane's steps and pretended to shoot them. "But, they dragged the men back inside, ordered them to lie still, ripped their shirts and splattered them with tomato ketchup."

A local photographer was called to the plane to take a photograph of the Kuwaitis, who were later kept out of sight of other hostages.

He said the hijackers had appeared ready to die, adding that he saw explosives being prepared to blow up the plane.

Neither the hijackers nor their organization have been identified, but Mr Beeston described their leader as "a psycho, a killer". They shouted repeatedly at the hostages and placed a gun at the temple of one and whispered "bang".

He said that on Friday, for unknown reasons, the hijackers walked down the aisle shooting out windows. "At first it appeared they were shooting passengers... I thought my moment had come," he said.

He quoted the hijackers as saying they had followed some of the passengers for a long time before the hijack.

The hijackers were convinced the first man shot, just after the plane landed at Tehran airport, was a CIA agent, he said. The second American killed might not have been shot if he had not struggled, Mr Beeston added.

Both men have been identified as officials of the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

Iranian authorities have pledged to put the hijackers on trial. The hijackers, who released 153 hostages in batches before the plane was stormed, had threatened to blow the aircraft up if their demands for the release of people held in Kuwait for a wave of bombing attacks a year ago were not met.

Captain Harry Clark, the British pilot of the aircraft, told reporters he did not know the rescue was on until a smoke bomb was thrown. He had been roped together with two other hostages just before the attack as the hijackers prepared to settle down for the night. "I was lucky I was not beaten up like the others, they needed me," he said.

● LONDON: A big family Christmas reunion was being planned yesterday for Mr Beeston. His wife Joyce was anxiously waiting his return to their home at Windlesham, Surrey.

They have been talking on the telephone since the end of his six-day ordeal.

Yesterday her sister said: "She just wants to be alone with her husband when he gets back. We are hoping it will be very, very soon."

His step-daughter Kim, a 27-year-old British Airways hostess said: "At the moment we are just trying to get the family together to make a nice Christmas welcome for him."

● WASHINGTON: President Reagan has praised Kuwait for its firm stand during the hijacking (Mohsin Ali writes).

In a message to the Emir of Kuwait, he said it was only through firm action that "responsible members of the international community can hope to counter the forces of violence and disorder and bring the perpetrators of such crimes to justice."

Democracy in Kuwait, page 16
Leading article, page 17

Iraq claims Gulf ship attack

Baghdad (Reuters) - Iraq said its aircraft hit a "very large naval target" yesterday near the Iranian oil terminal of Kharg island in the Gulf. In the past Iraq has used the term to refer to oil tankers.

It was the second consecutive day on which Iraq said it had hit a vessel in the Gulf. Shipping sources said a Bahama-registered tanker, the 163,155 gross ton BT Investor, had suffered minor damage in a missile attack in the Gulf south of Kharg island on Sunday. There was no immediate independent confirmation of an attack on shipping yesterday.

Heart man's new purpose

Louisville, Kentucky (APF) - Mr William Schroeder said here on Sunday that his artificial heart was working so well that "I don't even know it's there."

Mr Schroeder, aged 52, in his first press interview since receiving his plastic heart at the Humana hospital here, said he had a new purpose in life - to be with God. "He saved me. I had only 40 days to live before the operation," he said. Now, "I feel like I have 10 years."

Smith complies

Harare (AFP) - The former Rhodesian Prime Minister, Mr Ian Smith, is to give up his British passport under a law passed earlier this month forbidding Zimbabwe residents from possessing dual nationality. He said: "I'm a Zimbabwean. This is my country."

Simenon better

Lausanne (AP) - M Georges Simenon, the 80-year-old Belgian writer and creator of Inspector Maigret, was "recovering admirably" yesterday after unspecified surgery here, his secretary said.

Seaway clear

Montreal (AP) - The St Lawrence Seaway reopened late on Sunday when workers finished repairs on a broken lift-bridge, ending an 18-day shutdown that had disrupted shipping.

Stowaways back

Mexico City (Reuters) - Two Colombian boys aged eight and 10 who were found cold and unconscious at Mexico City airport on Saturday after stowing away in an airliner held for seven hours returned home yesterday.

Chess time out

Moscow (Reuters) - Anatoly Karpov yesterday took his last time out in the world chess match against Gary Kasparov, delaying game 32 of the series until tomorrow.

Bus victims

Stuttgart (AP) - A tour bus carrying West German pensioners crashed head-on into a car yesterday, killing three people and injuring about 25.

Jogger ends his China marathon

Canton (AP) - Grasping US and Chinese flags and surrounded by police and thousands of curious onlookers, a 41-year-old American yesterday finished a gruelling 2,108-mile run through the world's most populous country.

"I'm just ecstatic today, I'm just pumping pure adrenaline," said Stan Cottrell, of Tucker, Georgia, after he completed the 53-day adventure.

Because he was considered an honoured foreign guest the Chinese wanted to feed him banquet delicacies and heavy meats, which he was not used to.

"I told them I need potatoes, please give me potatoes," he said. "They said no, only peasants eat potatoes."

EEC farm ministers told to delay spending deal

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The austere ministers who control the EEC's purse strings yesterday sent a well-aimed warning shot across the bows of the Agricultural Ministers, who have the reputation of being the Community's spendthrifts.

Both sets of ministers were meeting in Brussels, theoretically in isolation. But the Finance Ministers noted that the farm ministers were discussing a new five-year package of measures to build up the agricultural infrastructure, which would cost \$3.7 billion.

The Farm Ministers were told firmly that they should take no decision - even though the present infrastructure programme ends this year - until such time as the Finance Ministers had examined what the Community could afford.

This means that tight controls are being imposed a year before the new rules approved in Dublin last month for controlling Community spending can come into force.

The Finance Ministers know that if the five-year deal is agreed now, it will have to be financed from budgets drawn up using the net of rules.

There is therefore reluctance on the part of the different treasuries to see a five-year deal agreed which will put undue strain on the budget in years to come.

The Finance Ministers want to see the Farm Ministers reducing the structural aid package by up to a sixth, before they consider it early next year.

This means that the present scheme will have to be extended while the Finance Ministers decide how much the Community can afford for them.

Doubts on cannibalism by miner

Taipei (AFP) - A miner who says he ate the flesh of a workmate to survive a four-day ordeal trapped in a killer coal pit was under police guard here yesterday, as tentative doubts were expressed about his cannibalism claim.

Meanwhile, efforts continue to reach the 42 other miners still missing, but hopes that they would survive have dimmed.

Mr Chou Tsung Lu told reporters that, after not eating for two days, he carved some flesh from the thigh of a dead colleague, one of at least 51 who died in an explosion last Wednesday at Haisanhan pit. He washed it down with water he collected in his helmet, he said.

The flesh from two other bodies was too rotten to eat, he said, but the third was better because "I guess he was younger and died not too long ago."

His claims, which some rescuers began to doubt, led to a nationwide ethical and legal debate. Father Chou Chen Chin, a Roman Catholic, said a corpse could be eaten in exceptional circumstances to save human lives.

A Buddhist monk said that eating a companion's body did not contradict the ethics of Buddhism.

The 56-year-old Mr Chou is in "remarkable" condition, doctors said, but they expressed some reservations about his mental condition.

This, and the fact that a healthy human should easily survive four days without food, led investigators to express some doubts about his story.



Team talk: The Pope welcoming Poland's footballers to the Vatican after they lost 2-0 to Italy in a friendly at Pescara on Saturday

Bickering Tripoli militias wait for Colonel Rifaat

From Robert Fisk Tripoli, Lebanon

Mohsen Eid's office contains some rather curious decorations. There is, for example, a stuffed fox next to his desk, a very old fox with lips that have fallen back to reveal some very sharp fangs. To the left, there is a stuffed bird that might once have been a stork.

But by far the most interesting object d'art is a large framed portrait of Colonel Rifaat al-Assad, brother of the Syrian President, who has so recently returned to Damascus from apparent exile in Paris.

Two of Mr Eid's young gunmen from the Arab Democratic Party (ADP) pulled the picture out of a dark corner beside the desk last week and

ostentatiously blew the dust off the glass before hanging it behind the desk. Mr Eid beamed.

"He came back from Paris with President Mitterrand," he said somewhat inaccurately. "He is both our father and our spirit."

Mr Eid had reason to be pleased. The ADP, whose membership is almost exclusively composed of Tripoli's minority Alawite community, draws much of its inspiration and quite a lot of its weaponry from the colonel's good offices.

The colonel is himself an Alawite and takes what one might describe as a fatherly interest in Alawites of Tripoli, whose status, and sometimes lives, have been threatened by the Sunni Muslim "Islamic

Unification" militia which controls most of the city and its majority Sunni population.

As military commander of the ADP, however, Mr Eid has one other cause for satisfaction.

A secret agreement in Damascus between the ADP and the Sunni militia has elicited a promise from both parties to permit the Lebanese Army to enter Tripoli. More importantly, perhaps, both sides have agreed to put each other's gunmen before a firing squad if they are responsible for killing rival militiamen.

Sheikh Saad Shabaan, the clerical leader of the Sunnis, has agreed to the "executions", although already, it seems, things have gone somewhat awry.

Militia killed one of our officers, Mustafa Mohsen", Mr Eid said.

"Some of their civilians were also shot by two men from our party, Sheikh Saad ruled on the Koran and said: 'We will kill the men who killed Mustafa Mohsen'."

"So we gave them our two men to be executed and they shot them. But they have not executed the man who murdered Mohsen. They even refused to hand him over to the Lebanese Army."

Mr Eid has other grudges. He claims that Sheikh Shabaan's gunmen have killed four more civilians and the crime has gone unpunished; that the Sunni militia is levying more than half a million pounds (sterling) in illegal taxes from

Tripoli port alone.

Sheikh Shabaan says it was Mr Eid's men who carried out the executions on their own men, but that other ADP criminals have been set free.

If all this sounds a little like a Mafia war, then that is a fairly accurate reflection of Tripoli just now.

Mr Eid claims that the sheikh's men are not going to let the Lebanese Army into Tripoli - the sheikh's own lack of enthusiasm on this point suggests Mr Eid is correct - and the ADP is now talking privately of Syrian military help to force the entry of the Lebanese Army into the city.

Envoy deplores 'disinformation' on Greek blasts

Athens - Claims by the leader of the Greek Communists that the Americans were involved in a recent spate of bomb outrages in Athens, were deplored by Mr Monty Stearns, the United States Ambassador, as a "particularly disgraceful example of disinformation" (Marlo Modiano writes).

The ambassador who expressed his indignation to the Greek Government, also voiced concern that the Communist allegations might create a security problem for Americans living in Greece.

The allegation was made in a newspaper interview by Mr Harilaos Florakis, the secretary-general of KKE, the pro-Soviet Communist Party of Greece.

Sandinista priest forced to quit Jesuit order

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Father Fernando Cardenal, the Education Minister in the left-wing Government of Nicaragua, has been forced to leave the Jesuit order as the cost of remaining a member of the Sandinista administration.

Vatican Radio said last night that Father Cardenal's departure from the order had taken place in "an atmosphere of mutual esteem and respect on the part of all those involved but obviously for him, and for many other Jesuits, it was a painful affair."

Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, the Jesuit General, personally informed all Jesuit superiors of Father Cardenal's fate.

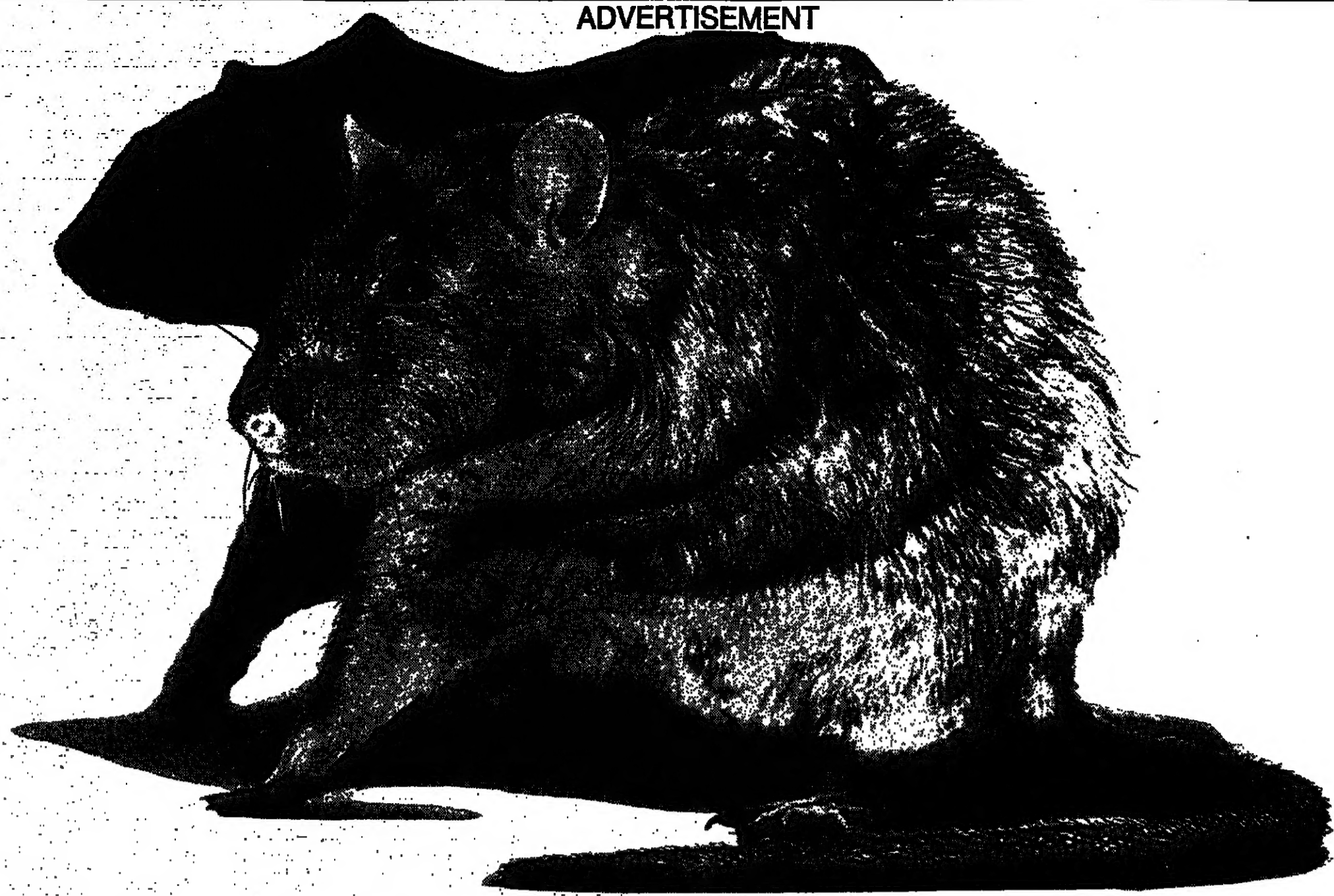
However, he remains a priest, one of three with ministerial responsibility in the Nicaraguan administration. Father Ernesto Cardenal, his elder brother, is Minister for Culture and Father Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann is the Foreign Minister.

According to Canon Law, priests cannot hold political posts. In a recent article published by *The New York Times* Father d'Escoto challenges allegations that the Nicaraguan Government is a communist front.

"The charge that we have become subversive to Moscow is absurd. Having given our lives to regain our sovereignty would we surrender it?"

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One of the few beneficiaries of ratecapping.

When the new ratecapping laws were being debated in parliament they were said to be needed to stop local authorities from over-spending.

In the event, some of the biggest overspenders (judged by the government's own figures) will not be ratecapped.

Yet five of the poorest boroughs in the country will.

Ratecapping means that Whitehall has put an absolute limit on what these boroughs can spend on local services.

Services like meals-on-wheels for the elderly, day care for mentally and physically handicapped children and street lighting.

Local councils will also have to look for cuts in services like public health inspection, waste disposal, street cleaning, renovation of poor housing and pest control.

Which may be good news for the rat population, but is bad news for everybody else. Particularly in deprived areas, where the demand for such service is already exceptionally heavy.

But Whitehall's spending limits take little account of this.

They are in fact based on figures which (according to the government's own Audit Commission Report) are out of date and inadequate.

And it's obviously impossible for Whitehall civil servants to make meaningful judgements about the needs of local communities.

The consequences are not hard to predict.

Penny-pinching in areas that are already in desperate need can only lead to further rapid deterioration.

It will put the work of enlightened public authorities in reverse, raising the spectre of problems that have not been seen in our cities for decades.

Problems that will be a lot more expensive to cure than to prevent.

And of course it's not just the poorest areas that will suffer.

They do not exist in isolation.

And rats have no respect for borough boundaries.

Ratecapping makes no sense.

Anti-nuclear protests in Asia



Storm in a port: Boat-loads of demonstrators trying to intercept the American nuclear-powered carrier Carl Vinson entering the Japanese base of Yokosuka. They tangled with police patrol boats and maritime defence agency craft. Thirteen students were arrested.

Lange fury at French A-test

Wellington (Reuter) - Mr David Lange the Prime Minister of New Zealand, said today France was "hell-bent" on more and bigger tests at Mururoa, possibly because they thought they would have to stop one day.

He told a press conference: "What is concerning us now about the French nuclear tests is that they seem 'hell-bent' on increasing the number, a quite appalling escalation of the firepower."

Mr Lange announced on Friday that the latest nuclear test at Mururoa was measured by New Zealand scientists at 70 kilotons, much bigger than anything in the present series.

"The size of this last blast means that they have become, in my view, utterly reckless, quite careless of our interests."

CANBERRA: The Australian Foreign Minister, Mr Bill Hayden, also criticized France for ignoring the protests of all South Pacific nations against nuclear testing in the region. (AFP reports)

"The French action shows a contempt for the views and interests of South Pacific people which can only exacerbate political difficulties between France and the peoples of the South Pacific," Mr Hayden said.

HIROSHIMA: The city of Hiroshima, which was destroyed by a US atomic bomb in the Second World War, has protested against a joint British-American nuclear test conducted on Sunday in Nevada.

FASHION PRESENTS I by Suzy Menkes

The last word in style

BOOKS

THE ART OF ZANDRA RHODES
By Zandra Rhodes and Anne Knight
(Jonathan Cape £9.95)

CARTIER JEWELLERS EXTRAORDINARY
By Hans Nadelhoffer
(Thames and Hudson £25)

McDOWELL'S DIRECTORY OF TWENTIETH CENTURY FASHION
By Colin McDowell
(Frederick Muller £20)



Grand Duchess Vladimir

In 1971, Zandra Rhodes, on a visit to Australia, bought four postcards of Ayers Rock, the great "stone cloud floating over a grass landscape".

Three years later, from that first experience and from the pictures that she took with her own camera, Zandra created her Ayers Rock print on felt. The arid Australian landscape with its sparse tufts of grass then sprouted on chiffon and finally appeared in luxurious satin in a dress for Princess Margaret.

The evolution of style - or more correctly the development of textile patterns - is the subject of Zandra Rhodes' book. She rightly describes her extraordinary fashion creations as "art". In a rather banal text but with splendid visual material, she explains how a fringed shawl in the Victoria and Albert Museum, as much as the far-flung trips to Australia or Mexico, is absorbed into her designs.

Zandra spikes some widely-held myths about her work, admitting that the slashed and torn dresses that labelled her as the High Priestess of Punk were actually inspired by a surreal print by Salvador Dali for Schiaparelli. The monumental lilies which are intimately associated with Rhodes design grew from a wedding photograph of her mother's bridal bouquet.

Although Zandra's dresses have been worn by the rich and famous (some of whom appear in the book) Zandra Rhodes is right to give her dresses a life of their own and pin them down as "butterflies", presented as coloured specimens across the pages. Like butterflies, the dresses express themselves not

The tremulous diars and globular gems of the Russian aristocracy lie at the heart of his new book.

In the lavish illustrations (400 in all) and dense text, Mr Nadelhoffer follows Cartier itself through changes in fashion and clientele, as the Romanovs are overthrown in turn by the Indian Maharajahs (who gave over their Rajput treasures to be reset in Paris), and as the American heiresses pick over the carcasses of fallen empires.

It is hard to credit that in living memory the Grand Duchess Vladimir paraded her magnificent obsession with jewellery in St Petersburg, or that Barbara Hutton (who changed her married name as often as her gem settings) was at the receiving end of the dispersed Russian jewels.

Louis Cartier was a creative jeweller who was able to develop the delicate, naturalistic "garland" style of Edwardian jewellery into the abstract geometry of art deco or into oriental exotica. The prolific Point period of Ballet Russe design and the later Chinoiserie inspiration are both sumptuously shown in some of the 200 colour plates.

Designer Jeanne Toussaint was the other great innovator, with her menagerie of animal shapes, especially the predatory panther motif and the monstrous chimeras, coiled as bangles and glittering with precious stones.

Colin McDowell has produced the reference book that students of fashion have been waiting for - a wide-ranging encyclopaedia of concise entries which add up to a *Who's Who* (past and present) of the fashion world.

McDowell is opinionated, eclectic (there are some unexpected entries of unexceptional English designers) and mostly accurate, although Robert Figue, should surely be Figue and it is odd to write about Hardy Amies without discussing his tailored suits.

But this is a book lined with hard facts and studded with strong opinions. It makes for a racy read, and McDowell backs this up with some acute judgments about clothes in their social context. The section on fashion allied to art - fine and cinematic - is strong. The Directory takes us to the major fashion capitals in Paris, Italy, New York, London and Tokyo. The rest of Europe and embryonic fashion stars from Australia to Brazil do not surface.

This is not a picture book, although there is a wealth of visual material.

Perhaps McDowell's major achievement, in a profession where vanity is king, is to establish and print a birthdate for every fashion king and queen.



Christmas decorations make the best fashion presents - accessories that sparkle, shimmer and shine. Satin, brocade and velvet represent the

spirit of Christmas past, appearing as waistcoats, hats and belts in richly decorated forms. Liqueur-coloured gems are big, bold baubles set on black lace and net. The brightest newcomer this party season is the brooch, frankly paste, for lapels and fastening scarves. Fake furs make warm Christmas wrappings - skating style mufflers, cossack hats and high neck sweaters have come into the shops with the cold weather. Fancy hosiery and patterned socks are the perfect stocking fillers. Christine Pinnell reports



Above: Rich brocade waistcoat £21.99, mixed with paisley shirt £18.99 and brocade tie £12.99, from Warehouse.

Centre: Silvery filigree and antique-look buckles decorate belts, from £8.99 by Fashion Ways, from Alders, Lewis.

Mosaic gloves £33.50, Whistles.

Left: Leaf patterned ankle socks £3.99, The Sock Shop, Victoria, Bond Street, and Knightsbridge tube stations.

Textured leather slippers £25, from Pleda Terra, South Molton Street, W1, Brighton and branches.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Chile: Hector Guerra Olmos

By Caroline Moorehead

Hector Guerra Olmos was arrested on August 4 last year and accused of forming an armed section of the Chilean Communist Party and being in possession of arms, explosives and subversive literature. He was sentenced to 820 days in prison.

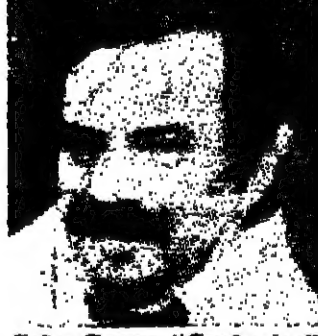
A former accountant, he was, like many other trade union activists, unemployed for several years after the military coup of September 1973.

Observers believe the charges against Guerra Olmos, in his early fifties, were based on "confessions" extracted under torture, while he was held incommunicado in a secret centre after his arrest.

An independent doctor confirmed he had been tortured and continued to suffer from the effects. The doctor's car was blown up in February.

Señor Guerra's wife, Celia, has been campaigning for his release. She has received death threats and been warned that if she reports them her husband will "disappear".

Señor Guerra and three others held on similar charges have brought a case against the secret police, saying they were tortured.



Señor Guerra: "Confession" extracted under torture.

Costigan report's credibility put in doubt by inquest

From Tony Daboudia, Melbourne

The credibility of the Costigan Royal Commission's findings into organized crime in Australia has been thrown into doubt after an inquest verdict in Brisbane on Friday and an attack on the commission's report on Sunday by Mr Neville Wran, the Premier of New South Wales.

The Brisbane inquest was on Mr Ian Coote, a former Brisbane bank manager who Mr Frank Costigan, the Royal Commissioner, said in his report had been murdered. The coroner, in contrast, found that Mr Coote had committed suicide, which was the original conclusion reached by police when Mr Coote died in 1982.

The Costigan report suggested that there was some connection between Mr Coote's death and Mr Kerry Packer, head of Australian Consolidated Press, and Mr Brian Ray, a business partner of Mr Packer.

Mr R W Bourgoire, the coroner, said he had no difficulty in making his findings because he had some evidence that the Royal Commission did not have.

"My decision is not in any way critical of the findings of the Costigan Commission and any statement I make should not be construed that way", he said.

Mr Bourgoire said that there was a complete lack of evidence to support a finding of murder and there was no basis for suggestions that Mr Ray or Mr Packer might have had anything to do with Mr Coote's death.

Commenting on the decision, Mr Packer said the verdict showed Mr Costigan to be either incompetent or dishonest.

"Commissioner Costigan and his assistant, Mr Meagher, exercised the most draconian powers and could easily have ascertained the truth of their allegations if they had not been

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Lee confirms race is on for his succession

From Stephen Taylor, Singapore

Underlining once again the emphasis on youth in Singapore's general election campaign, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the island's Prime Minister, has confirmed that he will retire in favour of a younger man in four years' time.

Mr Lee, who is still only 61, said there were at least three candidates for the succession and did not deny that they might include his son, former Brigadier Lee Hsien Loong, who retired as Deputy Commander of the Defence Forces in September to enter politics.

Filipino lawyers boycott courts to defend rights

From Keith Dalton Manila

Hundreds of human rights lawyers yesterday began an unprecedented two-day boycott of Philippine courts to protest against the lack of independence and scandalous subservience of the judiciary to President Marcos and the military.

There will be a march today to the Supreme Court which, the lawyers said, had failed miserably to assert its independence and had a dismal record for upholding human rights.

Lawyers in at least eight regions of the country will join the protest which has the support of 22 legal groups active in defending victims of human rights abuses. In a manifesto, the lawyers said respect for human rights had steadily deteriorated since 1972 when President Marcos imposed martial law.

His arrest and decree-making powers had "created a climate of fear where the courts function as tools to legitimize violations of human rights".

The lawyers issued seven demands, including the restoration of the writ of habeas corpus which is suspended in the southern Philippines.

North hits Seoul games

Tokyo (AP) - The North Korean Prime Minister, Mr Kang Song San, said yesterday that the 1988 Olympic Games must not be held in South Korea because the danger of Korean war "permanently prevails", and that going ahead with the Seoul Games would be a "challenge" to the North.

He said the North does not want to be host to the Games itself, but still is interested in forming joint North-South Korean athletic teams to compete in the Olympics and other international competitions.

North Korea has repeatedly expressed its opposition to the Seoul Games by reporting objections from some other countries to holding the Olympics in South Korea, which lacks diplomatic relations with the socialist countries.

But Mr Kang's statement, carried by Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency, was the strongest so far.

JOHN FRENCH
fashion photographer

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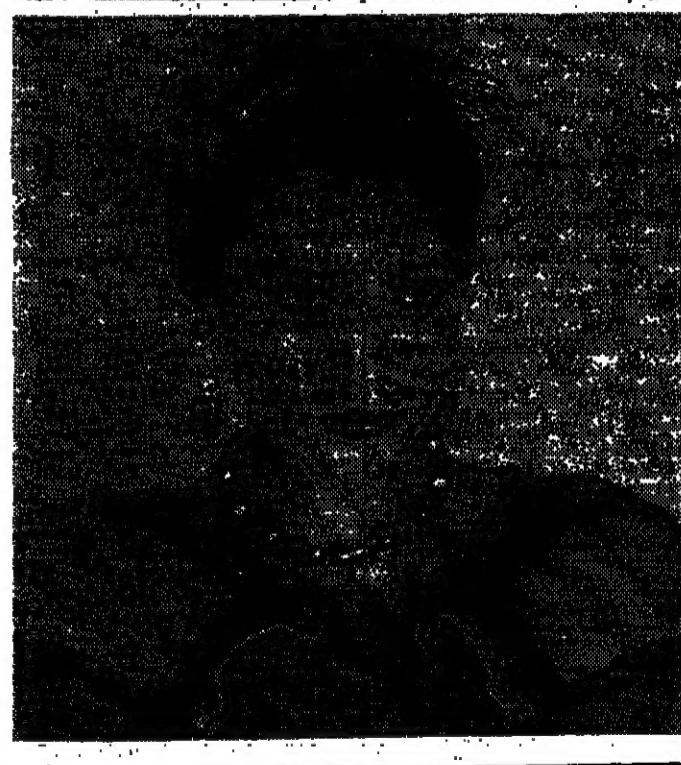
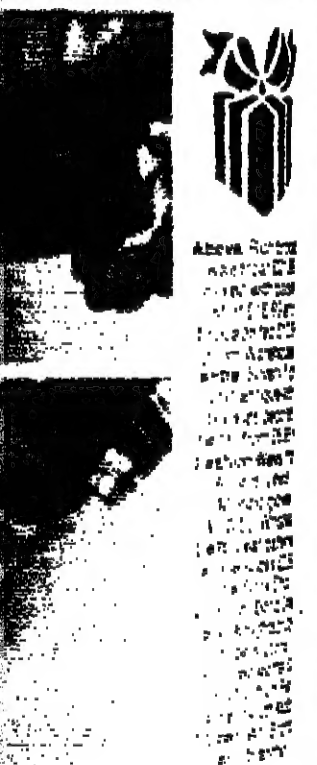
decorations make the...
presents - accessories that
shimmer and shine. Satin
and velvet represent the
last, appearing as waistcoat
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g. bold baubles set on black
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Fake fur make warm
g - skating style muffs
h neck sweaters have come
h the cold weather. Fancy
ned socks are the perfect
Christine Pinnell reports



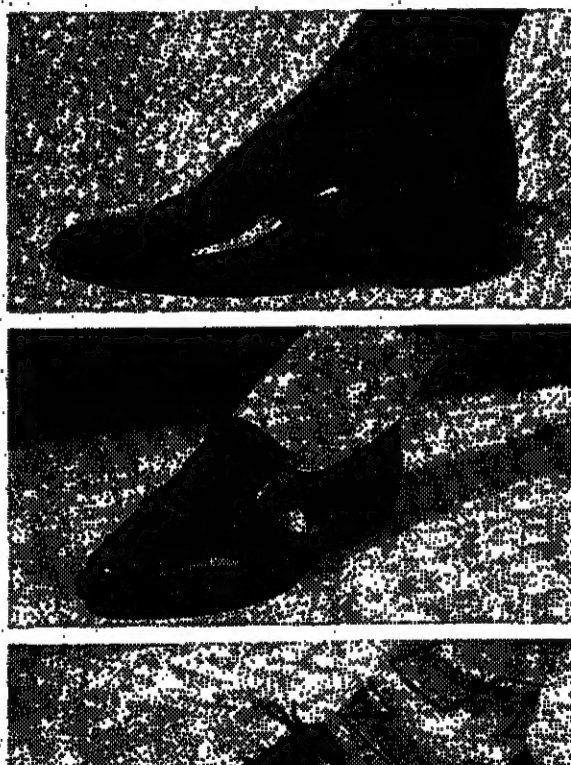
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skirt £27.95 by Monic.
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jacket £25 by In-Wear.
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leggings £19.95. All
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band £7.95 by In-
Wear from Harrods
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St Anne Street,
Manchester; 59 Union
Street, Glasgow. Red
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bead necklaces
£8.99 each,
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March of Brighton.
Hair by Michael Strum
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Knightsbridge.
Inset top: Bold as
brass arrowhead belt
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Cromwell Mews SW7
and Whistles shops.
Inset centre: Brightly
painted leather jigsaw
belt £15.95 from
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Bond Street.
Inset bottom: Waist-
bitting brass buckled
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Lewis's, Selfridge,
Richards and
Fenwick stores.
Right centre: Fun fur
pillbox hat £7.99 by
Kangol from Miss
Selfridge shops. Fake
fur muffler £8.95;
polo neck sweater
in wool mix
£26.95 by French
Connection; both
from Fenwick of Bond
Street. Copper disc
earrings £9.95,
Accessories, 22 The
Market, Covent
Garden WC2.
Right below: Heiter
Skeller tights £2.95 by
Mary Quant from
Fenwick. Purple
leather bar shoes
£69.50, Xavier
Danaud,
St Christopher's
Place, W1.



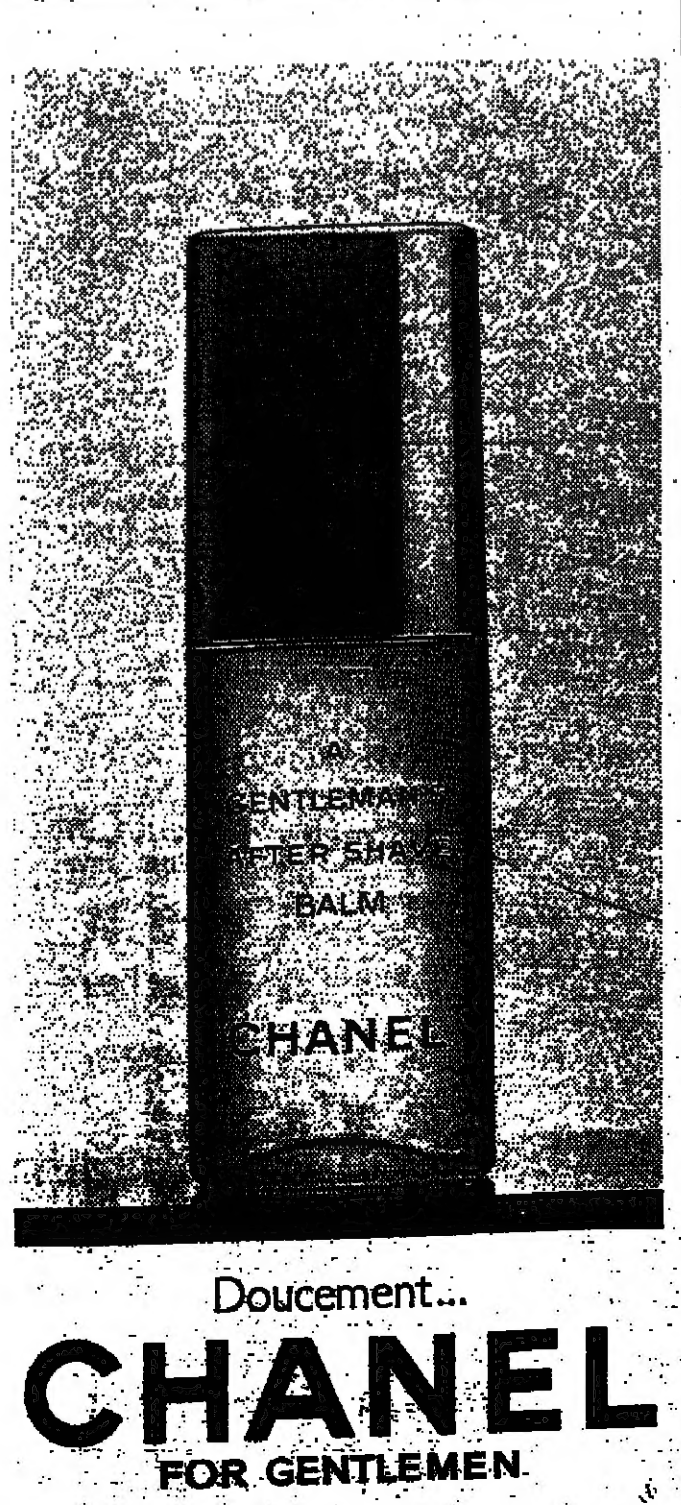
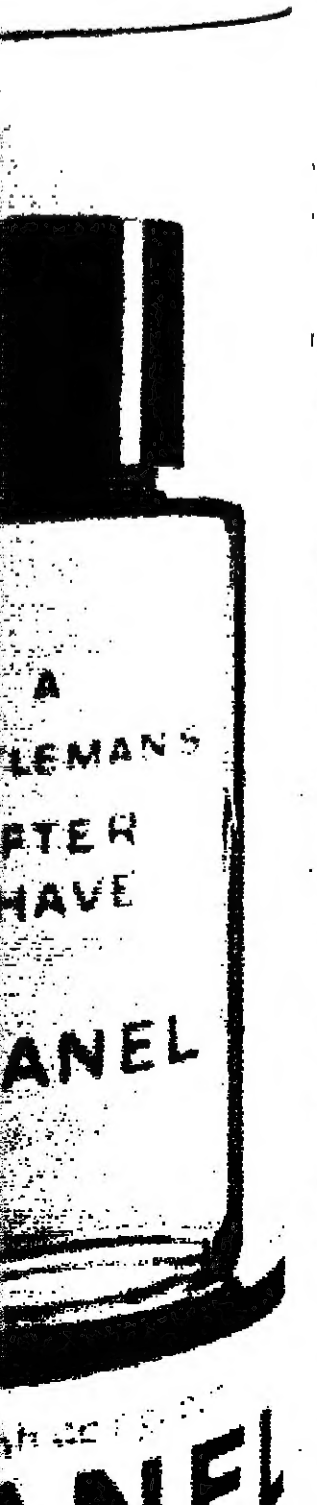
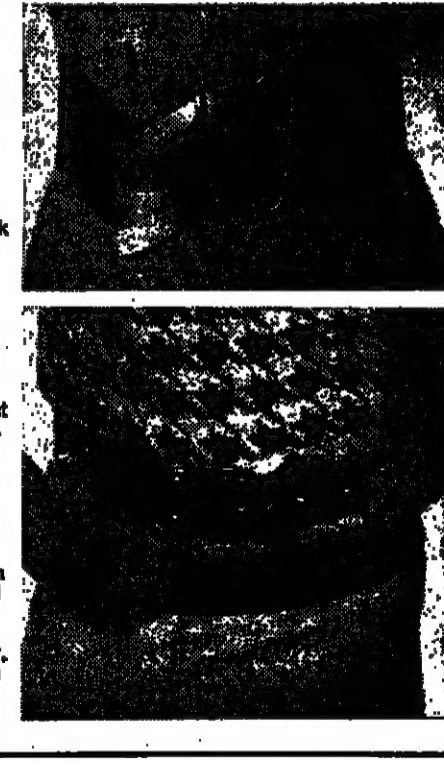
Left: For the woman
who never has a thing
to wear... witty hats
- this one in black
velvet and gold lamé -
made to order by
David Shilling, 44
Chiltern Street, W1.
Below: Pure paste -
glitter bar £5.95,
arrow brooch £10.95,
jet pin £12.55,
Fenwick of Bond
Street. Gem set
antiques: brooches in
gold and platinum
from Ivor Gordon, 430
Sloane Street, SW1
and Young Stephen,
1 Burlington Gardens,
W1. Jacket £114,
Cacharel, 103 New
Bond Street, W1.
Shirt £14.95, West
Paisley tie £8.99, Tie
Rack.



Left: Filled gloves
£2.99 Miss Selfridge.
Satin head band
£8.25, The Hat Shop,
58 Neal Street, WC2.
Pink gem necklace
£12.95, Accessorize,
22 The Market,
Covent Garden WC2.
Earrings and brooch,
Fenwick, Cuddly
sweater dress £42.50,
Monsoon branches.
Top right: Grey and
black "Checkers"
tights £1.99, Aristoc,
Black patent pumps
with three elastic bars
£49.50, Xavier
Danaud,
St Christopher's
Place, W1.
Centre right: Ankle
socks spotted all over
£3.99 from The Sock
Shop, Victoria, Bond
Street and
Knightsbridge tube
stations. Fringed
loafers in red patent
£18.99, G & A stores.
Bottom right:
Geometric patterned
socks £3.99, The
Sock Shop.
Lace-ups £69.95,
Midax.



Left: Japanese
erotica print on a thick
shirt £40, scarf £9,
under hand-knit
cotton sweater with
fishtail £140. All by
Memento, from
Browns, South
Molton Street, W1.
Rubber earrings
£7.95, Liberty, Regent
Street, W1.
Right above: Wavy
edge leather belt
£19.95 in assorted
colours by Nancy
Fisher from Fenwick
of Bond Street.
Right: Silver arrow
on black leather belt
£21 by Otto Glanz
from Harrods; Fenwick
of Bond Street. Sweater,
skirt and gloves from
G & A. Metal bangle
from Fenwick.



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| | |
|--|---|
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| SUITS Sili (Italy) A wide selection of 2 piece and d/b wool business suits reduced from £175/£195 Sale price from £110 Givency (Paris) 3 piece and d/b wool business suits £189/£225 Sale price from £145 Koden (West Germany) 3 piece, 2 piece and d/b wool suits £175/£195 Sale price from £125 Lamin (Paris) 2 piece and d/b wool suits £295/£395 Sale price from £195 Chester Barrie 2 piece and d/b hand made English suits £335/£425 Sale price from £225 Odeonmark (West Germany) Classic 2 piece and 3 piece business suits £175/£195 Sale price from £110 Savoy Tailors Guild Classic 3 piece and d/b suits £129/£175 Sale price from £80 | KNITWEAR Clan Douglas 100% cashmere V-neck (Scottish) £85 Sale price £50 (2 for £95) Pringle, John, Lapidus, Bylee and Nail Bon Greatly Reduced |
| RAINCOATS Zip out lining West German made classic style raincoats. Usual price £135 Sale price £85 | Ladies Shop Winter Sale (Strand & Knightsbridge only) Mond Winter collection All third off Bresle Winter collection All third off Savoy Tailors Private collection of wool and cashmere winter coats Reduced from £195 to £145 Serge Nardel (Paris) 2 piece suits, dresses, blouses and skirts All half price Peg Shy 100% wool suits. Usual price from £125/£145 Sale price from £95 Lakem Evening tulle dresses in long and short styles All third off Knitwear 100% cashmere V-neck (made in Scotland) in 5 colours Usual price £75 Sale price £45 Scarves Wool and cashmere tartan scarves £21 to £12 |
| JACKETS Soft 100% wool jackets £145 to £90 Odeonmark, Koden, Barrie, Ted Lapidus Classic winter jackets Usual price £95/£145 Sale price from £50 | Open Monday to Sunday until Christmas Instant credit up to £250 available. All major credit cards accepted. |
| SHIRTS Lamin plain colours £29.50 to £18 Business stripes £36.50 to £20 Pierre Cardin Prints and stripes £29.50/£36 to £16 Christian Dior £28.50/£35 to £18 Givency £22.50/£32.50 to £18 Savoy Tailors business stripes and plains Reduced from £24.50/£35 Sale price £12 Eton of Sweden plains and business stripes £24.50/£39 Reduced to £18 Savoy Tailors Guild 100% Pure Silk Washable in cream, blue, grey and navy... £39 reduced to £20 | SAVOY TAYLORS GUILD |
| SCARVES 100% Combed cotton £36.50 £25 100% wool scarves £14.50 to £7 | 93/95 The Strand, WC2. 32 Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge (Beside Harrods). 83 Cheapside EC2 (N. Bank Stn.) |

SPECTRUM

Government spending on advertising has been so crippled, budgets can't cope. Torin Douglas reports

The high price of a low profile

POUNDS AND PUBLICITY

The Government's controversial new slogan for drinking drivers, "Stay low", could equally well be applied to its departmental advertising budgets. For while spending by the public corporations and local authorities has increased dramatically in recent years, expenditure on direct Government advertising has effectively halved in the past 10 years.

In 1974-5 the Government's departments spent £12,874,000 on advertising, according to its specialist advertising and publicity arm, the Central Office of Information. At 1983 prices, that would have amounted to £40,698,000. Yet in 1983-4 the Government spent just £21,128,000 on its advertising campaigns.

Exactly what constitutes "Government" advertising is a vexed question, but it is generally held to include all departmental advertising placed through the COI, such as recruitment for the Ministry of Defence (armed services) and Home Office (police and prison officers); road safety advertising for the Transport Department; recruiting blood donors for the DHSS; and conservation campaigns for the Department of Energy.

There are many other bodies, however, whose spending is on occasion held to be Government advertising, even though the campaigns are not handled by the COI.

By far the biggest example is the Department for National Savings, which last year spent £8.5 million advertising, according to Media Expenditure Analysis Ltd.

Others include the Scottish Development Agency (£2.1 million last year, according to NEAL), the Welsh Development Agency (£1.4 million), the English Tourist Board (£1.2 million), the Scottish Tourist Board (£1.4 million), and the Health Education Council (£1.4 million). In its annual spending table of the top 10 big spending companies, headed by Unilever, NEAL lumps all these organi-

zations together with the Government: even so, its total of £40,549,000 gives the Government only sixth place.

In 1975, it headed this league table, though only for one year. Its position resulted from a combination of three large, one-off campaigns: the first "Save It" energy-saving campaign; the EEC referendum campaign; and, most controversially, the counter-inflation campaign, which was banned from television by the Independent Broadcasting Authority on the grounds that it was political.



Since 1975 the decline in spending on government advertising has seemed deliberate.

Since 1975, the decline in direct Government advertising expenditure has been steady and seemingly deliberate. Donald Grant, the director general of the COI, thinks there are various reasons. "There has been a determination to cut Government expenditure generally, and that includes advertising," he says. "But just as significant has been the fact that some of the big-spending campaigns are no longer needed: Click-Click stopped when seat-belt legislation came in." Nevertheless, the fact is that on these campaigns that are still needed, Government expenditure has not kept pace with the retail price index, let alone inflation in media expenditure. Many budgets are no longer enough to do the job for which they are intended.

"A million pounds nationally on television does not go far

these days", says one ad man with long experience of Government campaigns. But the new drink and driving campaign has a budget of just £1.15 million, divided between television, newspapers, magazines, posters and radio.

The decline has coincided with an increased questioning of the role of the COI in Government circles. Traditionally, the COI has appointed the advertising agencies, negotiated with the media and set the budgets, in consultation with the departments, but it is increasingly being bypassed for some campaigns, such as those for the British Telecom and British Airways flotations. Earlier this year, it lost its Treasury "vote" and is now paid by the departments for the campaigns they need.

Whether the Government should go the whole hog and break up the COI, leaving departments free to handle their own publicity on their own, is a question that has been hotly debated within Whitehall for many years. A number of departments maintain that they could do their own advertising perfectly well. On the other hand, smaller departments, who advertise less, could not. Also, there is little doubt that the COI pays its way, in that its central negotiation of press and television discounts covers its costs two or three times over.

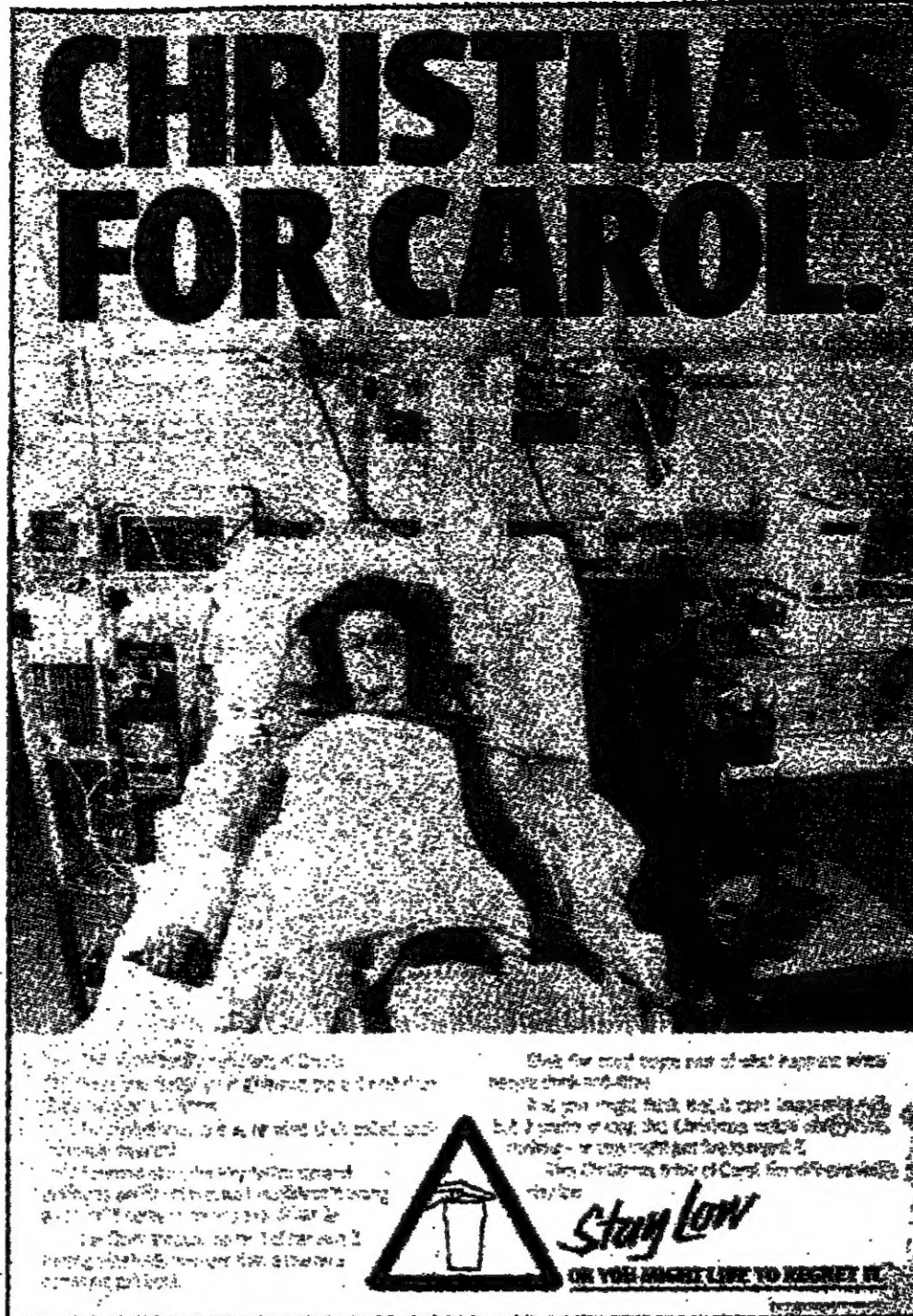
The COI has another important role, however: to ensure that the standards of Government advertising are kept uniformly high.

"There is a long tradition that you don't spend taxpayers' money on a political cause", says Donald Grant, "and I cannot think of an occasion since I've been here that a COI campaign has fallen foul of the Opposition for such a reason." Nevertheless, there was an outcry in Parliament last year when it was discovered that Defence ministers were proposing to launch a £1 million campaign putting across the case for nuclear weapons. As a result the plan was quickly abandoned.

THE POLITICAL TIGHTROPE

Since 1978, when the Conservative Party's "Labour Isn't Working" poster first appeared, attracting instant outrage from Labour ministers, and considerable media discussion, the advertising agency, Saatchi & Saatchi, has built up an almost mythical reputation both within the business and outside, not least among politicians and their advisers.

The agency has had a major influence, many advertising people believe, on the growth and the tone of political advertising in this country.



The cost of controversy: 'Stay Low' campaign will cost just over £1 million

The aggressive, uncompromising campaign it ran for the Conservative Party in 1978 and 1979 opened many people's eyes to what could be done through the medium of large posters and full-page newspaper ads. It is widely believed that this campaign was the original inspiration for the GLC advertising that has caused so much confusion, and in turn inspired many other bodies to harness the power of heavyweight advertising.

Undoubtedly there is more "issue" advertising - the industry's euphemism for political, as opposed to party political, campaigns - these days than ever before. It is reflected in the growth in the number of "political" complaints received by the two advertising control bodies, the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which is responsible for other media.

The two bodies have different attitudes towards political advertising, which explains why the vast majority of issue advertising appears in the press and on posters. The IBA, under the Broadcasting Act, is not permitted to accept political advertising.

By contrast, the ASA which is a self-regulatory body, funded by the advertising business, does not attempt to pass judgement on political ads, saying it has no wish to hinder freedom of expression.

It has received 68 complaints against ads it regards as political so far this year, 12 of them against the GLC, and others against bodies such as the Conservative Party, British Nuclear Fuels, the Tobacco Advisory Council, British Telecom, the SDP, Aims of Industry, Greenpeace, the National Front and the National Coal Board.

Not everyone is happy that the ASA should wash its hands of political advertising in this way. The chairman of the Ted

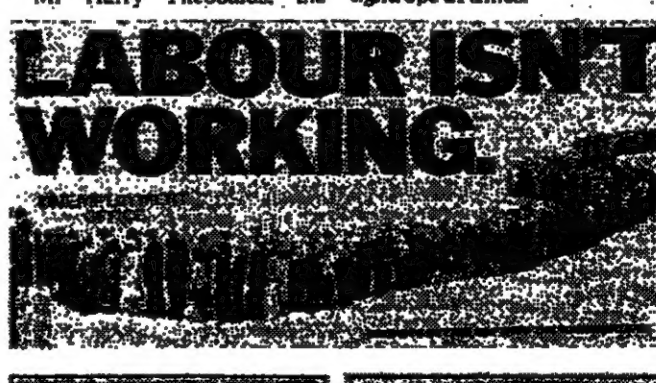
Bates agency, Mr Winston Fletcher, who has advised the SDP on its advertising campaign, wrote in *The Times*: "Why are political advertisements not required, like all others, to be legal, decent, honest and truthful?"

The director of the ASA, Mr Peter Thomson, says: "Our position stems from a general view about allowing the maximum amount of freedom of speech in a democracy and if there were to be some form of censorship, it would be quite inappropriate for it to be done by an unelected body such as ourselves."

Mr Harry Theobalds, the

IBA's controller of advertising, says: "In the past 12 months, we've been under increasing pressure as a result of the big issues, such as the abolition of the GLC and the metropolitan boroughs. We've had to turn down CND - it would be hard to argue that they're not a body with political objects - and then argue that we accept recruitment advertising for the Army."

"On the GLC campaign, we rejected the wording 'GLC Working for London' but we decided 'Working in London' was factual. People say this is playing with words, and it is, but the fact is we have to walk a tightrope at times."



Two campaigns: Top, the Conservative poster from 1978, and one of this year's GLC anti-abolition posters

moreover... Miles Kington

Enormous interest was aroused a few months ago over the identity of the new Poet Laureate. All of that interest has now been dissipated owing to the extreme slowness with which the matter is being decided.

So in order to rescue the event and give it all the glamour and glitter it deserves, More-over Promotions Ltd has decided to put it on a commercial footing and stage it as it should be staged, in a manner which will put both the Booker Prize and Miss World into the shadows. Our offer, I am glad to say, has been accepted.

The contestants will be flown into this country next week and arrive one by one at Heathrow. As most of them are already in the country, this means that they will all have to be flown out this week, prior to their arrival, but as I think I mentioned, no expense is being spared.

One of the contestants will be held at the airport on suspicion of carrying drugs. Another will be asked on the Russell Harty Show and will cause a sensation by saying "Who is Russell Harty?". Two of them will come to blows over the quality of Clive James's verse (we hope very much that one of them will be Clive James himself) and read his "Ode to a Hangover" on BBC News. All this, of course, is merely to attract publicity and will not detract

from what is a very solemn occasion.

On the day itself, large crowds will gather outside the Albert Hall, attracted by a wild rumour that Prince Michael of Kent has entered the contest under a pseudonym. Robert Maxwell will make a late but unsuccessful attempt to take over the contest. The poets themselves will then arrive in stage coaches specially hired for the occasion and will declaim impromptu verses on the steps of the Albert Memorial to boost their own claims for the title. A mysterious lady entrant will be unmasked as Kenny Everett and thrown out, though all in the best possible taste.

The Judges (who will include Henry Cooper, Michael Aspel, Barbara Cartland, Nigel Dempster and a bemused D. J. Enright) will arrive by helicopter, and then the serious business will start.

For the first round, the poets will parade in eighteenth century poems costumes being marked for the beauty of their wigs and knee-breeches. The top 15 will go into the second round, wearing costumes of their own choice, and reading a poem on the subject of "Why I want to be Poet Laureate in Not More Than a Hundred Words".

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: PUBLIC OPINION

Manners maketh the man



When choosing qualities considered important, the British are the most concerned about good manners among Europeans, the French least.

Two thirds of the British - 68 per cent - chose good manners from a list of 17 qualities, making it the second most important after honesty. By contrast, the French put manners in tenth place. Instead they value thrift, by three to one. Fewer than one in ten of the British value thrift, according to interviews in the European Values Study Group survey reported in the book *Europe at the Crossroads*, by Jean Stoetzel.

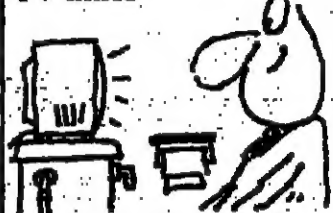
Taking a chance
In Britain, 35 per cent of the population say they have bought Premium Bonds in the last year, and one in 20 says they have bought them in the last week.

In the United States the 70 per cent who approve the idea of a weekly lottery would be, with the exception of the few winners, chucking their money away.

Only 6 per cent of Britons believe that gambling is morally wrong and should be discouraged.

In America Roper found there is resounding support for a weekly lottery run by the Government to help reduce the national debt. A total of 70 per cent approve the idea, 24 per cent do not.

TV times



Watching television is Britain's most time-consuming leisure activity. Despite fluctuating viewing figures over the last two or three years, the average Briton watches about three hours of television a day, more than any European viewer. However, it is nothing by comparison to Americans. They watch more than five hours per average weekday, including ads and evening viewing.

The American weekday viewing public is disproportionately female, while men watch more often than women at weekends. The average American spends 2.1 hours glued to the box between 7 am and 5 pm on weekdays and 3.4 hours in the evenings.

On an average weekend they watch 5.5 hours of television. On week nights, between a quarter and a third of the time is spent watching dramatic or comedy series (23 per cent), news (28 per cent) and movies (26 per cent). Weekend viewing is substantially different with movies in first place.

Robert M. Worcester

The author is chairman of MORI. Details of fieldwork dates and sample sizes are reported in British Public Opinion Newsletter, published by the firm.

Correction

In Findings on Public Opinion in October, a slip of the slide rule indicated that there are 17 million working women in Britain. Audrey Slaughter, editor of *Working Woman* magazine, was quick to point out that the most recent figures indicate that 10.2 million women, including 6.7 million married women, work either full or part-time.

It is the GLC campaign that has aroused the greatest controversy in the last year, partly because of the undoubted impact of the campaign and partly because it is being funded with ratepayers' money.

Mr Chris Powell, joint managing director of Boase Massimi Pollitt, the GLC's ad agency, maintains that the question of the GLC's abolition is not a party political issue within the GLC, since all parties oppose the Government's action, and therefore that the use of ratepayers' money for the campaign is legitimate.

Mr Peter Thomson of the ASA points out that the novelty in recent months is that it has been the political left that has started using advertising, as well as the right, and Mr Powell believes it is appropriate that this should be so. He says: "We believe that advertising agencies are in the position of advocates and that the ad industry has a responsibility to make its top talent available to anyone who is legally entitled to express their views on a subject."

But what in the end can advertising achieve? While it can change attitudes and encourage people to wear seat belts or save energy, can it actually affect the political process? Mr Tim Bell, the director of Saatchi & Saatchi in charge of the Conservative

Advertising is little more than the modern day extension of the soap box.

Party advertising and now, in a personal capacity, a consultant to the National Coal Board, thinks that in certain circumstances it can.

"I don't think our advertising campaign won the 1979 election for the Conservatives", he says. "But I do believe that the 'Labour Isn't Working' poster stopped Mr Callaghan calling an election in the autumn of 1978 when he might well have won."

He rejects the analogy between the Conservative Party advertising and that of the GLC. "I think the comparison is invidious. To start with, the Conservatives went round raising money from people who knew what use it was going to be put to, whereas the GLC is simply using ratepayers' money to make a political statement."

"And whereas I would be prepared to put up any of our Conservative ads to an independent group for vetting, the GLC ads could not stand up to an impartial test at all. How can they say that Whitehall is taking over London when most of the functions of the GLC are being devolved on to the 32 London boroughs? It's just not true."

Despite Mr Bell's confidence, many observers would maintain that the Conservative advertising would fail such a test, too - and that, of course, is the problem. The bias and distortion is in the eye of the beholder, whether the ad is for a political party, the GLC, the Tobacco Advisory Council or whoever.

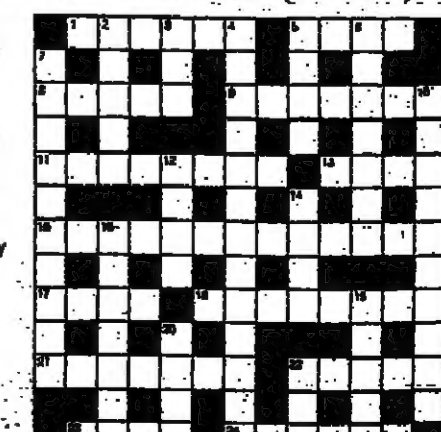
Yet advertising as the ASA's Mr Thomson points out, is little more than the modern-day extension of the soap box, and Mr Bell agrees. "I think the whole idea of public debate is important and I think the purity of paid-for communication - in the sense that everyone knows who is making the statement and can therefore judge it - is a very good thing."

Also, like all advertising people, he finds issue advertising more rewarding than selling products. "Let's face it, the benefits offered in selling an opinion are far greater than those in selling a soap powder. The benefit of persuading someone to vote Conservative is that life will be better, which is a much more important message than clean clothes."

The final seven will then return and be given five minutes each in which to whip up the audience to uncontrollable fervour. The judges will retire to consider their verdict. Barbara Cartland will temporarily delay things by voting for herself, but finally the decision will be made and the results announced in reverse order.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 518)

- ACROSS
1 Impulsive person (6)
5 Aim (4)
8 Smell (5)
9 Encroacher (7)
11 Bedtime drink (8)
13 Two-am (4)
15 Restricted period (7,6)
17 Not any (4)
18 Country boundary (8)
21 Wrap (7)
22 Berks racecourse (5)
23 Fall (4)
24 Describe (6)



- DOWN
2 In midst of (5)
3 Vicious dog (3)
4 Affectedly formal (4,3,6)
6 Domestic (4)
8 Strenuous (7)
7 Drowsiness (10)

- 10 Restore (10)
12 Yugoslav war leader (5)
13 Toss (4)
14 Office messenger (4)
16 Chopat's snake (3)

SOLUTION TO No 517

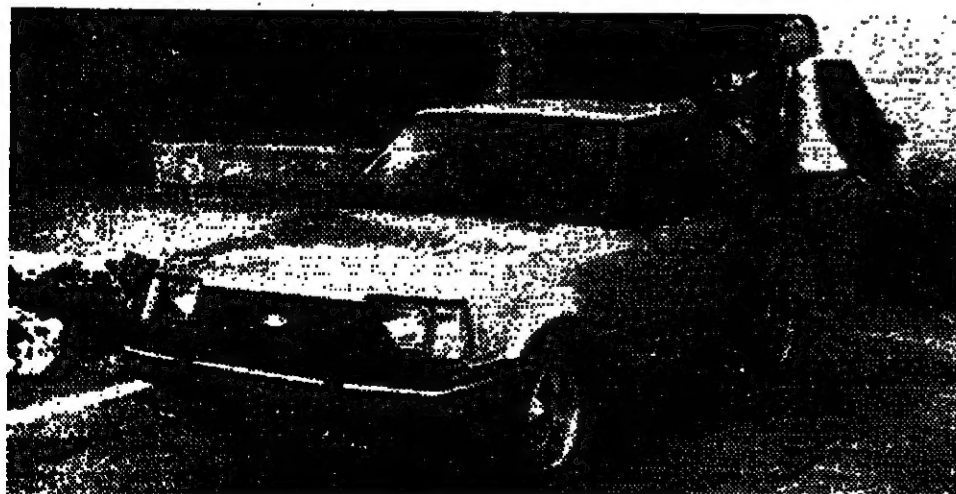
ACROSS: 1 Blend, 4 Ruderal, 5 Aisle, 9 Soupcon, 10 Novadance, 11 Sit, 12 Unendurable, 17 Case, 18 Ribaldry, 21 Emancipate, 22 Ombre, 23 Endless, 24 Rerun.
DOWN: 1 Besune, 2 Endow, 3 Decadent, 4 Risky business, 5 Dour, 6 Recital, 7 Lines, 12 Parous, 14 Niggard, 15 Accede, 16 Wyvern, 19 Debar, 20 Laze.

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TWA

illustrated by **David Hockney**

Prince Volund was of a different mind: 'Building castles is long, laborious and often dangerous work,' he said. 'I will engage only enough men that I can pay fair wages. We will

haul stone from across the mountains because it is easier to work. We must cut down pine forests as scaffolding and to make proper shelters for the men, and we will engage full-time hunters to keep us well supplied with deer and wild boar.'

'Furthermore,' said Prince Volund, 'every man who helps me build this castle shall have a part ownership of it, which will entitle him and his family to seek refuge here in times of trouble.'

At the end of the first summer, King Hrolf came to view the progress. Agnay's castle was half complete, but poor Volund had only just begun. The people laughed at Volund. 'It will doubtless be a very fine castle when it's finished,' they mocked. 'What a pity there will be no princess to live in it.' King Hrolf wasn't so sure.

Then winter came. And as you know, winters in the Northlands are very severe. Cold hands found Agnay's stone even harder to work. Accidents, caused by the lack of scaffolding, trebled. The berries disappeared from the hillside, and where there had been grass for a bed, now there was snow.

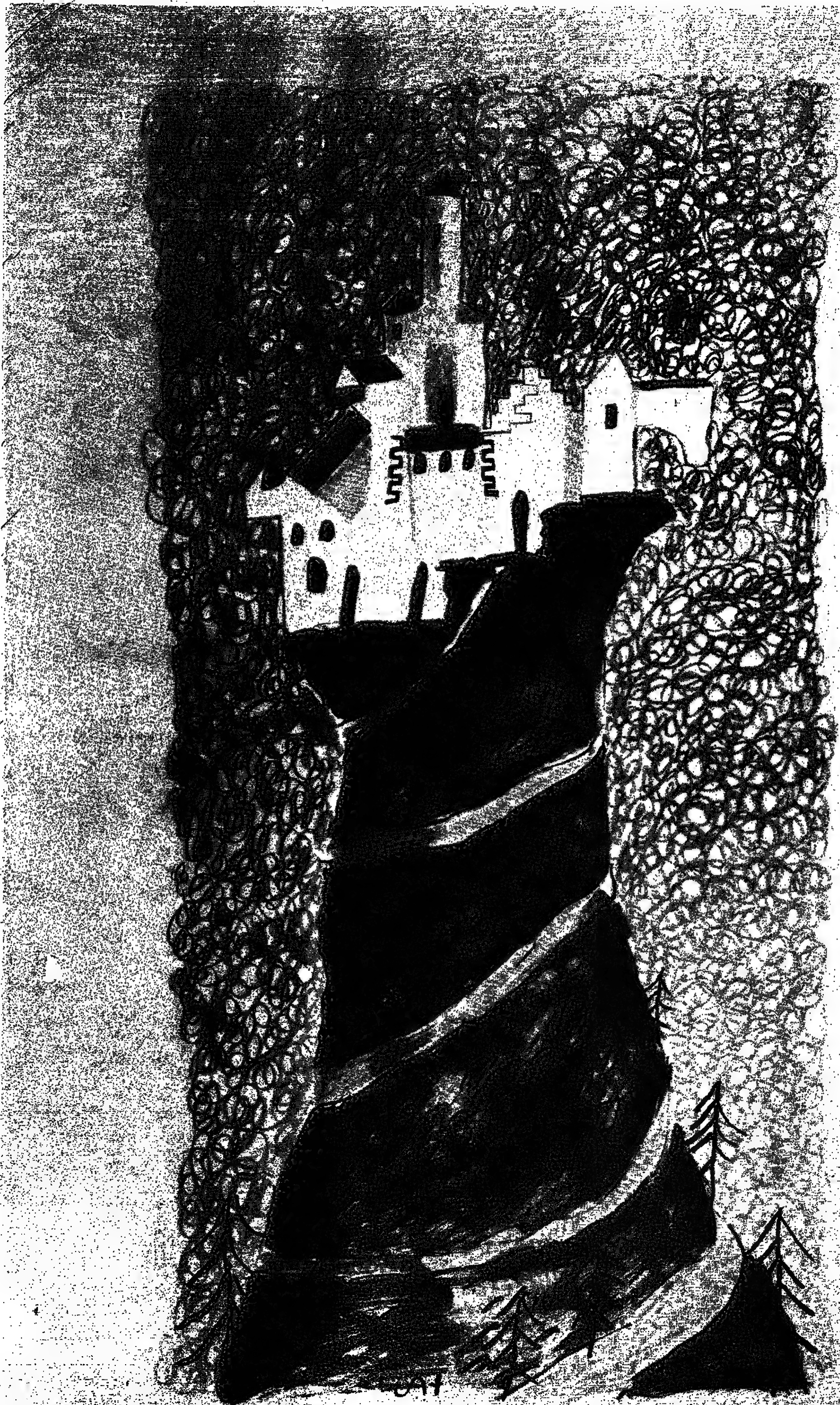
Mumblings and grumblings became visible discontent, and one by one Agnay's men downed what tools they had and asked, 'Why should we work under these conditions?' Volund's labourers knew they would gain lifelong security for their families from the finished castle. They went to Volund and said, 'Because we are so far behind in the race, we have looked around and found ways of being more efficient.'

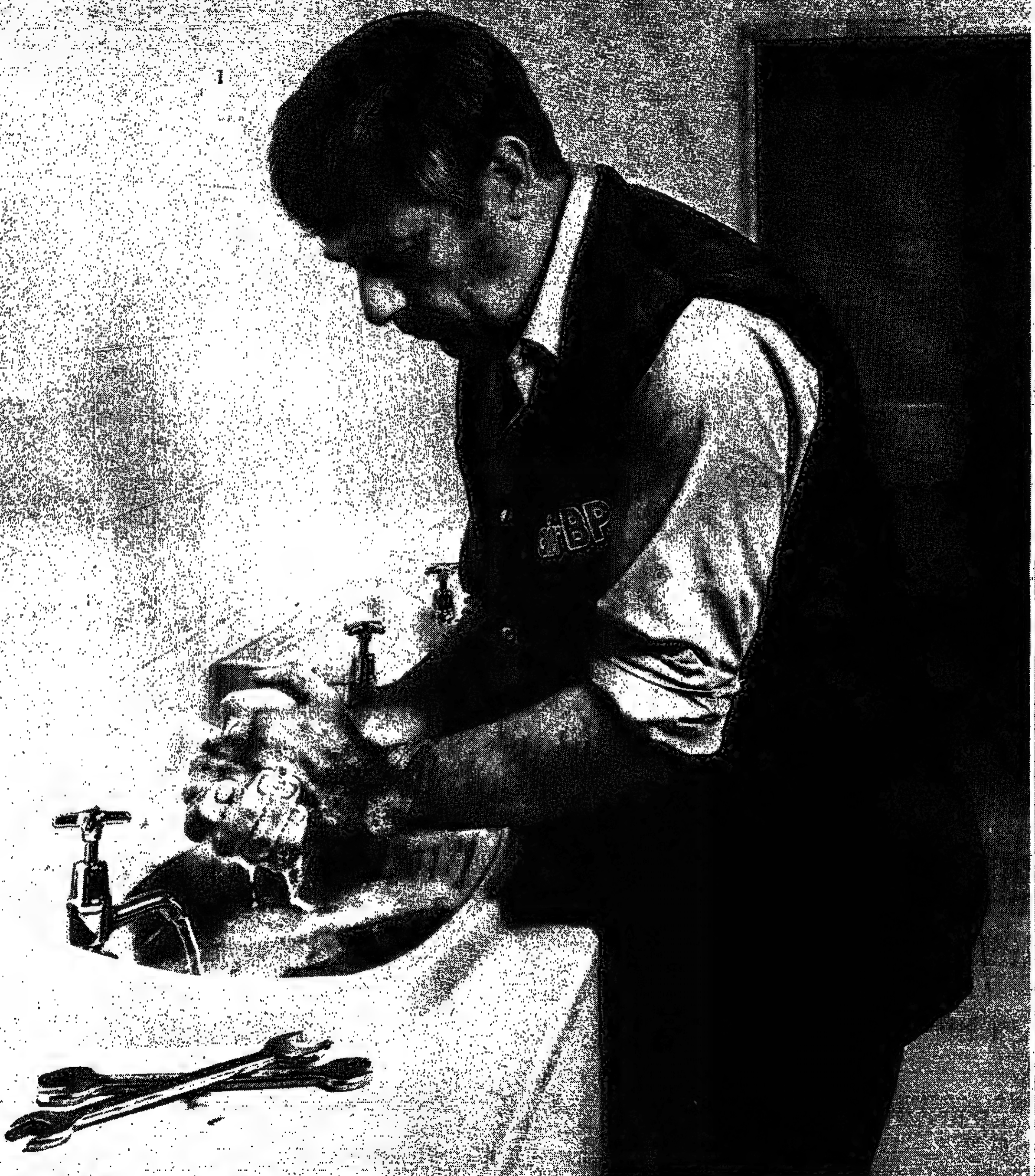
And so it was that as Agnay fell into disarray, Volund went from strength to strength. And, as you will have guessed by now, one summer and winter later he not only finished first, but had built by far the most beautiful castle.

At the wedding, which by all accounts was a splendour in itself, King Hrolf took Volund to one side. 'I have gained more than a son,' he said.

'In this part of the Northlands, the lessons that you have taught will never be forgotten.'

VOLVO





This fully qualified tanker driver is about to help out on a kidney transplant.

What do you need to transplant a human organ?

Anaesthetics, blood plasma, oxygen and aviation fuel.

Aviation fuel? Think about it.

Before someone flies the donor organ to its new owner, someone has to fly to fuel the aircraft.

Four men from BP's aviation staff recently received awards for doing just that.

A pilot from the St. John's Ambulance Brigade's Air Wing explains:

"Not long ago, I got a call at 1 am to fly a kidney to Glasgow," he says. "One of the Air BP staff got straight out of his warm bed, drove from his home at Porthcawl about 20

miles away, took a tanker out of the depot, and fuelled my aircraft.

By 2am I was in the air."

As you can see, there's more to running an oil company than simply pumping petrol into motor cars.



Britain at its best.

Gal
An arra
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Commerce
Scholarship

ings and Sculpture
Three Centuries

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sch and Flemish Old
Master Paintings

The art of the 17th century is a rich and varied one, and the exhibition of the 17th century art collection is a must for anyone interested in the history of art. The collection includes a wide range of works, from the early 17th century to the late 17th century, and covers a wide range of subjects, from religious to secular. The exhibition is a must for anyone interested in the history of art, and is a must for anyone interested in the history of art.

Debu

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Art - Commerce
- Scholarship
Colnaghi

Paintings and Sculpture
of Three Centuries
Heim

Clarity in Awareness
Alan Jacobs

Dutch and Flemish Old
Master Paintings
Johnny van Haeflen

By the beginning of December, the art world is usually well and truly dedicated to the contemplation of Christmas still to come, and is hopefully laying out its supplies of preferably not too expensive bits and pieces that someone, somewhere, might possibly contemplate buying as a present for a loved one or even, in extremis, for himself. It is definitely not the time for heavyweight shows. But this year seems to be the exception to the rule: several West End galleries have on display their most impressive wares, and plan to run them right up to Christmas. This means that even if you cannot afford even to imagine a purchase, at least you can garner a lot of free satisfaction just from looking at what others have already bought or in the fullness of time may buy.

The most immediately impressive show of this kind is probably Art Commerce - Scholarship, at Colnaghi, until the end of the week. It is designed to be impressive, reminding us of some of the extraordinary riches which have passed through the company's hands since 1760. Actually, the earliest sale represented is that of Metzu's *A Lady Reading a Letter*, negotiated around 1900, and very splendid it looks, recently cleaned it would appear, for the most part in superb condition, and obviously much more easily seen and better displayed than in its usual Irish country house setting. Even more familiar in principle, and even more difficult to see properly in practice, is the Westminster Hospital's Veronese *Resurrection*, acquired through Colnaghi in 1950. Though it hangs in the hospital chapel, it is not there well lit, and entails a lot of permissions and

explanations to get to: here it emerges in all its splendour, only dimmed a little by proximity to paintings which have been more recently cleaned and restored.

One of these, Doli's *St Nicholas of Bari saving the Christian Boy*, is so calculatedly bizarre that it automatically attracts attention to itself, and would even without the sparkle of newly degreased paint. The bearded and mired saint, attentive to the prayers of the slave-boy that he might be at home for the feast of St Nicholas, has swooped down, and carried the lad off by his hair, which seems to incommode him not one bit, though the feasting Turks below look flabbergasted, as well they might. Doli's colours are rich and strange, and his sense of dramatic (if not melodramatic) effect is sure. Another very striking and odd painting, at present in the same Swiss collection, is Pier-Leone Ghezzi's *Two Musicians*, which is almost the first thing you see on entering. The musicians are climbing a flight of stairs, the one in front looking very cheery with a large bass-fiddle slung over his shoulder, the one behind a lot more worried. They are following someone just sweeping out of the picture and indicated merely by his heel, the tip of his sword and the edge of his coat - the canvas does not appear to have been cut down - and the general effect is hauntingly funny and mysterious.

Outstanding among the works of major masters on show are the series of five Van Dyck busts of *Apostles* from Althorp, now on their way to a private collection in Switzerland, and therefore on all accounts not to be missed; the excellent catalogue argues out the details of the case for assuming that these at least are among the primary series from Van Dyck's own hand, rather than any of the copies and replicas which have bedevilled art history since the Antwerp court case of 1660. (The catalogue also, incidentally, has a number of fascinating introductory essays, including one by Donald Garstang which outlines the relationship between Colnaghi and Berezson when Isabella Stewart Gardner's collection was being formed, from hitherto unpublished archives of the company.) And if one doubts the ability of admittedly lesser masters to hold their own in such company, there are such discoveries as Henri-Pierre Danloux's delectable portrait of the (obviously justly) celebrated courtesan *Mlle Rosalie Duhan* from the period of her strategic withdrawal to London during the Revolution,



Adriaan van der Werf's *A Cat Watching Two Children with a Mousetrap*

and Joseph Wright of Derby's powerfully direct *The Captive*, which dates from his year in Rome but was inspired by a passage in Sterne's *Sentimental Journey*.

Just across Piccadilly in St James's are three more shows of Old Masters remarkably substantial for the time of the year. Heim have until December 21 *Paintings and Sculptures of Three Centuries*, accompanied by a catalogue which, as usual, includes several substantial contributions to scholarship, such as the identifying of the curious and in some ways wilfully awkward allegory *Temperance* as the work of relatively unfamiliar sixteenth-century painter Herman Posthumus, with his unexpected combination of Northern and Mantuan elements. The show also includes two bronzes, *Angelica and Medora* (the famous tree-inscribing episode) and *Diana and a Satyr* now attributed to Ferdinando Tacca, the so-called "missing link" in the chain of Florentine sculptors in bronze. Also to be seen are an excellent Giordano portrait of a *Beggar Philosopher*, the somewhat obscure iconography of which is being elucidated at the moment by Professor Oreste Ferrari, and a large early battle-scene by Charles Parrocel.

The two other shows appear happily in the aftermath of the Royal Academy's immensely popular *Age of Vermeer and de Hooch* show, which evidently, whatever reservations critics may have about its living up exactly to its title, went straight to the heart of the great British public. Possibly those who enjoyed that show's general coarseness might find Clarity in Awareness, the show of Dutch and Flemish still-lives at Alan Jacobs until after Christmas, a little too refined for their taste. But I do not think so: the still-life, though these days a rather overlooked product of the golden age of Dutch painting, does lend itself to an extraordinary variety of expression, indicating the character of the artist just as surely as the more extrovert genre painting. There is, for example, a world of difference between the rather stiff formality and almost symmetrical arrangement of Philippe de Marliere's *Bouquet of Flowers in a Patterned Pottery Vase* and Adriaan Coorte's slightly surrealistic *Still Life of Shells on a Stone Ledge*.

While the Alan Jacobs show is strong on consistency and concentration, the show of Dutch and Flemish Old Master Paintings at Johnny Van Haeflen until December

21 thrives on variety. There are genre scenes such as might have been at the Academy, including a very interesting (and rare) unfinished example by Egbert van Heemskerck the Elder, a tavern scene in which some figures are quite finished and others just a sketch with a face. There are flower pieces, religious compositions (though the grandest by Theodoor, has already been borne away by an impatient purchaser), a delightful Adriaan van der Werf of two (slightly sinister?) children playing with a mousetrap and watched carefully by a cat, and a Teniers the Younger *Temptation of St Anthony* with some peculiarly daft drunken animals making a rather poor job of leading the saint astray. And, perhaps most striking, Richard van Bleeck's *Portrait of the Painter Coenraet Roepel* at work on one of his own typical still-lives, which he himself obliged by painting on in the easel in the picture; both have signed their contributions, with a flourish and, one would say, a fitting sense of pride. Clearly even a substantial Old Master show does not necessarily preclude some pre-Christmas fun if that is what you fancy at this time of year.

John Russell Taylor

Television

Now prove it

Abstraction piled upon abstractions, said Professor Jean Dieudonne of modern mathematics in BBC2's *Horizon* last night. The principal participants were appropriately photographed as though atop mountains. Most of us were surely scrabbling in the foothills. In no way could Jon Palfreman's *A Mathematical Mystery Tour* be said to be an offence under the Trade Descriptions Act.

Mathematicians, it seems, are resigned to an absence of proof in many corners of their infinite world but they have had time to reconcile themselves to it. It was in 1931 that Kurt Godel produced his "incompleteness" theorem which demonstrated that mathematics would always remain incomplete. They appear happy to think away to "a lot of beautiful and important results", as Dr Dieudonne called them, limited only by their own mortality.

Such proofs as mathematicians have had in the past are not always available to them. Pierre de Fermat, for instance, in 1631 he wrote that he had discovered a marvellous proof about a type of equation but that the margin of his writing paper was too narrow to contain it. A prize now awaits the mathematician with a solution and a wider piece of paper.

Just how trying mathematics can be may not always be appreciated. Gottlob Frege laboured to reduce mathematics

to a system of logic. He thought he was there when our own Bertrand Russell, an admirer but with his eyes open, wrote and indicated an illogicality. He was right and a devastated Frege acknowledged it in a footnote to his life's work.

Russell tried to resolve the contradictions in Frege's work in his *Principia Mathematica*. The effort, thought Dr Ivor Gratton-Guinness, editor of the *Journal of the History and Philosophy of Logic*, broke him intellectually - "he was not as sharp after as before". Russell's massive *Principia* ("like wall-paper") was "like some vast overture to a work that never got written".

Extraordinary efforts are gull made. Two Japanese scientists have calculated Pi to almost 10¹⁰ million decimal places, which seems a rightly irrational thing to do with an irrational number, but for the most part Herr Godel's conclusion that you just can't win is considered liberating. Many conundrums rest in the pigeon-hole marked "undecidable".

Computers will not assist. Mathematicians will not trust a machine when it comes to proof. "If a computer makes a mistake", said Professor René Thom, "then the proof is not a proof". As Eric Morecambe used to say: "There's no answer to that".

Dennis Hackett

Opera

Another first

The most splendid event in the San Francisco opera season so far was Joan Sutherland's singing in the third act of an otherwise dull and dubious *Anna Bolena*. Miss Sutherland, having sung 10 roles here since 1961, including four "career firsts" (Maria Suarda, Rosalinda, Esclarmonde and the *Traviata* Leonora), but I do not recall a performance more artful, melodious and expressive than this. San Francisco's first *Anna Bolena*, in an opulent production originally staged for Toronto last May.

In her duet with Jane Seymour and especially in the long climactic scene leading up to Anne Bolena's death, she moved effortlessly from emotion to emotion: anger, pity, outrage, dejection, delirium, final resignation, all the while leaping through intricate ornaments and pouring out yards of magnificent and sweetly compelling sound.

Apart from Miss Sutherland's astonishing performance (which Chicago will hear next, and no doubt other places soon), Kevin Langan's robust Henry VIII, and a fortune's worth of "authentic Tudor" set costumes, there was little to admire about this production. Livia Buda's Jane Seymour was sharp and ill-sung, with many notes plummy and wide of the mark. She improved markedly by Act III, but withdrew after one performance. Rockwell Blake's Percy sounded as thin and strained as a cracked reed whistle, pinching into ugly falsetto at the top. While the conductor Richard

David Littlejohn

Debuts

The Warwick Arts Trust is an excellent place in which to view paintings, but its bare plaster walls and intimate dimensions deal harshly with any pianist whose treatment of a large Steinway is at all cumbersome. The New Yorker Samuel Bartos seemed consistently to misjudge the relative weights needed by tune and accompaniment, and his touch was far too uneven to bring the arpeggios of Schubert's *A flat impromptu* cascading down with proper delicacy.

Both here and in Beethoven's "Waldstein" Sonata he also revealed a tendency towards impatience, robbing bars of their full metre.

He impressed far more in Bartók's Op. 14 Suite, matching the music's sardonic energy with a more disciplined rhythmic awareness, and producing a far cleaner piano texture - possibly because he pedalled with greater discrimination here. Movement from Ravel's *Miroirs* confirmed that Bartos is technically competent, but lacking the ability as yet to communicate his warmth of feeling for the music. If he cannot establish any rapport with listeners sitting, salon-style, a yard or so from his right elbow, he is unlikely to ignite audiences in larger arenas.

Richard Morrison

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It was very much a Sunday afternoon concert, with not quite enough adrenalin, or perhaps rehearsal time, to disperse us of the fact. There was no shortage of visual excitement, to be sure, with Andrew Davis engaged in wild aerobics on the podium, and with John Lill's fingers as strong and supple on the keys as if they had been out jogging. Mere physicality, though, can be something of a short-cut to Rachmaninov and Prokofiev.

After Rachmaninov's transcription for orchestra of his

When aerobics from the podium are not quite enough

Vocalise, a pleasant enough beginning, came his Third Piano Concerto. It began well, with Lill's introduction of the first subject suspended lightly just over the surface of the keyboard. But in order that its invention should expand rather than harden, this work, too, needs not a little vocalise of its own.

The generation of energy up to the first movement's two cadenzas leaned, both orchestrally and pianistically, too much on the merely percussive and dynamic by the time the aggrandized solo first subject

reached its peak, its tone had become fixed, rather than being allowed to radiate its warmth.

This was as much to do with the fact that inner details - woodwind colourings, pianistic whimsicalities - were underemphasized for the organic part they must always play. This made the finale, and indeed the performance as a whole, efficient with the satisfaction of a completed jigsaw, rather than a recreation of something fearfully and wonderfully made.

After the interval came Prokofiev's Fifth Symphony, well played, tautly structured,

but, again, lacking the final whiplash of imaginative insight to send it on its way with true panache.

The first movement picked up as it progressed, more thanks to the inner strength of the strings' ensemble than anything else. As the central scherzo strutted along, it set up more fun than flendiness. This was, true enough, the Cinderella Prokofiev of the rosy cheeks and wide blue eyes, but without the mordant wit of his mind. John McCaw spiced the finale with some nicely invigorating clarinet playing.

Hilary Finch

One man's quixotic quest

suggested, he is fulfilling every-one's dreams for them, and, moreover, I suspect, he confirms the lingering suspicion that there is not that much to conducting and that anyone who tries hard enough can do it. (After all, if Mr Kaplan's soul had been caught by Brahms's Second Piano Concerto, he would have had a tough time teaching himself to play that from scratch.)

The actual results on Sunday night, when the LSO imported the maestro to repeat the performance which has already set New York alight, should have been gratifying to Mr Kaplan, but also reassuring for any real conductors around. He

can do it. He knows what he wants and his gestures, though sometimes soggy, are decisive enough to convey it. He knows the piece. I don't think (it is often difficult to tell) that the LSO was merely following its leader - a practice it employs with numerous conductors far more experienced than Kaplan.

He managed many awkward transitions with a boldness that won my admiration - slashing rittenos before some of the climaxes with a sublime confidence that the orchestra would be with him, which they were. Both the quietest and the most tumultuous sections of the final movements were naturally impressive, and the very end

was managed with enormous panache. So it worked. All that was missing was what a conductor really should be doing: maintaining tension, giving the vast expanses of the first movement a sense of architecture, all that comes under the portmanteau word interpretation. One could say that Kaplan's scherzo was rushed, his slow movement dragged. There was no doubt he felt every bar, but there is, happily, more to conducting than that.

One other thing, in case you are thinking of trying it. Mr Kaplan is a millionaire.

Nicholas Kenyon

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STANSTED CAN WAIT

The first official turn around the Stansted merry-go-round was taken in the early sixties, and now twenty years later Government, environmentalists, airlines, airports and regions are all still embroiled in arguments over where the expected growth in London's air traffic between now and the end of the century should be accommodated. In the meantime events have forced on a number of attractive options as the inspector in a preface to his report, published yesterday, in which he caustically indicts the ineptness and vacillation of Governments of all colours.

Now once again the analysis is based on a forecast of overstrained capacity. Perhaps it will be correct this time. Traffic has been more buoyant than was predicted this year, and given the large benefits of aviation to the economy profits as well as convenience can suffer if provision lags too far behind demand. But in considering the report's prediction that annual passenger movements will almost double by the end of the century, it is worth bearing in mind that Roskill in 1970 predicted 122 passenger movements a year by 1990; in 1978, after the great oil price shock, the official mean prediction was 78 million; in 1981 it was down to 61; and today the same figure is regarded as "reasonably optimistic".

Having dispatched (one hopes for ever) the green field alternatives and rejected as impracticable the prospect of re-channeling traffic to the Midlands to any significant extent, the report is thrown back on Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted. With

both the former, Governments have entered into commitments under local pressure which severely restrict the options today. The lost second runway at Gatwick must be counted as a mistake now past retrieving; but the limit on the number of flights at Heathrow (below what present capacity can handle) cannot be so regarded, nor can the Government's brusque pre-empting of the findings of the present inquiry at its outset, with an announcement that a fifth terminal at Heathrow was not favoured.

All logic cries out for the fifth terminal. The report confronts unflinchingly the dismal consequences and blight that afflicts Heathrow, and insists that it must be made a tolerable place for passengers and neighbours again. But a fifth terminal could be added at only marginal cost in burden on services and the environment. However, this necessary decision has now been left so late that the extra capacity cannot be provided before the middle of the 1990s. A gap of about five years' inadequate provision is forecast, which only Stansted can fill. At present it carries a twentieth of the number of passengers carried by Gatwick, and only a sixth of Heathrow's. But extra terminal capacity and a new rail link could bring it quite quickly up to a size comparable to that of Gatwick. A second terminal could enable it to carry twice as many passengers as Gatwick; and a second runway would double its capacity again.

All that stands in the way of these possibilities is the beautiful (and productive) agricultural land over which Roskill waxed so eloquent, and a population

inclined to vote Tory, but not numerous. The report judges that the environmental effects of the smallest level of expansion would not greatly change the character of the area. Serious change would come at about the point of addition of a second terminal. Addition of a second runway would be "an unprecedented and wholly unacceptable major environmental and visual disaster" and should be rejected under any circumstances.

The trouble is that there is a momentum about these things. A limited expansion might remain limited: facilities once provided create a logic of further expansion to take advantage of them; and an airport tends to attract housing and industry to an extent that planning controls may find it hard to resist. Yet the predicted five-year capacity gap may prove hardly a gap at all, given the uncertainties of this kind of prediction. It would be a cruelly consistent end to a long story of muddle if Stansted were developed as a stop-gap for a gap which never happened, and suffered further development after that because it already had been.

The first priority now is to make a firm decision to press ahead with the Heathrow terminal as rapidly as possible. Any growth at Stansted should be at the very minimum scale at all compatible with the traffic forecasts. Any question of a second terminal there should be held in reserve until the Heathrow development is complete and the need is quite unavoidable; and any development should take place under an absolute guarantee that there will never be a second runway.

ANOTHER PLACE, ANOTHER BUDGET

The collective mind of the European Parliament is concentrated this week on the question whether to reject the proposed Community Budget for 1985, which approaches £15,000 million. If it does, it will create what can variously be described as a financial crisis or a little local difficulty which will in due course be overcome, but which in the meantime will cause a certain amount of purposeless inconvenience before it is settled.

The Parliament at Strasbourg is not without technical arguments for refusing to accept the Budget. It is claimed, for instance, that the Budget before it is illegal because the Treaties governing the Community require that the Budget should cover a full year, which this one cannot do since expenditure for the coming year will exceed the amount of revenue that can be raised under the existing 1 per cent VAT-base rate for EEC "own resources". The new 1.4 per cent maximum agreed at Fontainebleau is unfortunately being blocked by the Germans until they feel sure that the enlargement of the Community by the accession of Spain and Portugal is assured.

One of the arguments in the Parliament, therefore, is that since this is effectively a Budget for only 10 months it is illegal, to which, however, the Commission and the Council of Ministers can reasonably reply that the real illegality would consist in presenting a Budget of

more than 1 per cent before the higher level has been formally approved. After all, there is nothing wrong with bringing in a supplementary Budget later, however much the European Parliament objects to it.

However, the real motives behind the threat to block the Budget are not those that appear on the surface. For one thing, the parliamentarians at Strasbourg dislike the Fontainebleau agreements that the Community, (in fact the Council of Ministers) should fix in advance the maximum level of spending for the coming year, and that net expenditure on agriculture should increase less than the rate of growth of the "own resources" base. The fear is that these constraints might result in economies on special or regional programmes or overseas aid.

Behind this argument, however, lies the deeper fear that the European Parliament's influence over the Budget will, as a result of the Fontainebleau agreement, be less rather than more as the parliamentarians wish. It is not the level of spending that is the cause of the objections. Many of the Euro-Parliamentarians do not want to reduce spending.

In addition, the Parliament would like the British repayments for the coming year to be written into the Budget on the expenditure side, the effect of which would be that the Parliament and not the British would have the say on the programme for which the rebate money was spent.

If the Parliament decides to block the Budget when it votes on Thursday, the Community will go on to the "provisional twelfth regime" under which it raises monthly one-twelfth of the 1984 budget, or of the 1985 draft budget (whichever is the lower) until a proper budget is passed. For some time the Community could manage on this arrangement as it has before; but it could not cover the British rebate, and when that had to be paid there would be difficulties. It would also be quite a severe restraint on agricultural spending. The Commission, acting within the Fontainebleau arrangement, would then have to submit another Budget.

If it really wants to win influence and friends, the Parliament will avoid temptation and not block the Budget. It already once blocked the British rebate this year, largely out of bad temper, and it achieved nothing by it. There are better ways of trying to build influence and it should not be misled into believing that, by analogy with national parliaments, control of the purse strings in this manner is its strongest weapon.

The reality is that the Council of Ministers has been working quite effectively to bring unity to the Community by practical solutions to the problems that divide them (and their national legislatures) from each other. To try to frustrate these solutions can be no more than a delaying tactic which can do no possible good.

IRAN'S BURDEN OF PROOF

The government of Iran has to some extent provisionally redeemed its honour over the hijacked Kuwaiti aircraft that settled on the tarmac of Tehran airport. During the first five days of a long drawn-out and exceptionally ferocious act of piracy the conduct of the Iranian authorities was supine almost to the point of connivance. During that time the Shi'ite terrorists, whose demand was for the release from prison in Kuwait of a gang of their fellow-terrorists, murdered two American passengers, faked the death of two Kuwaiti passengers, and terrorized other passengers with what sounds like wanton cruelty. When at last the Iranians moved the agony was brought to an end instantly without further loss of life.

It is claimed in defence of that way of proceeding that it was necessary before striking to gather information, tire the hijackers, and have the aircraft emptied of as many passengers as possible. A waiting game is acknowledged to be often the best way of handling hostage-takers, and it can be granted that Iranians have superior knowledge of the mental state of Shi'ite fanatics. But the denouement does not entirely cancel suspicion of connivance.

There was something fishy about it. The hijackers, we are informed, asked for cleaners to

be sent along to sweep up, and got security men dressed up as cleaners and carrying firearms which they omitted to detect. It was a curious request to make when the hijackers had the aircraft charged and wired for the final immolation and had just broadcast their last wills and testaments to the control tower.

The proof of Iran's innocence of connivance will lie in its treatment of the surrendered terrorists. Convention does not oblige, though it permits, Iran to return them to Kuwait, or to Lebanon or wherever they hail from. It does require that hijackers be brought to trial in the jurisdiction in which they surrender and, if convicted, be punished in a way that fits the crime, aggravated in this case by double murder, assault and menaces.

Apart from stringent precautions at airports, which Kuwait plainly failed to achieve, the best discouragement of this manifestation of international terrorism is, first, the certainty of severe punishment. That is why Iran's treatment of its new prisoners matters so much, not just in a retributive sense, but to the whole international community. And the other best discouragement is adamant and universal refusal to submit to the demands of hijackers, however agonizing the consequences of

refusal. In that Kuwait showed admirable resolution.

The death penalty does not have an important part to play, whatever else may be said for or against it in different jurisdictions. The likelihood of a convicted prisoner becoming the object of a hostage-taking demand for his release would be an uncertain and capricious criterion for the application of capital punishment. Unless there were to be summary conviction and execution of prisoners, there would be no lack of time to seize hostages while the law took its course. That was indeed the position in the other most recent air hijack carried out by dissident Somali officers. (They surrendered to the Ethiopian authorities, who signally failed to do their duty by the international community by granting the criminals political asylum.)

As for the idea of using the prisoners whose release is demanded as counter-hostages and threatening the hostage-takers with a life for a life or some other ratio of deaths, that would be a gross violation of justice, perverting the judicial process with the morals of terrorism. Besides, one is dealing with fanatics of varying persuasion and intensity; their reaction to that threat or its implementation could not be predicted with any certainty and might be the opposite of restraint.

In defence of the Tories' aims

From Mr John Stokes, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge (Conservative)

Sir, What a peevish letter from Mr Lingens (December 7) about the alleged black week for the Conservative Party. What an extraordinarily bitter attack on "the hidden welfare state for the middle classes". Here Mr Lingens shows his hand. Is it criminal to belong to the middle class? More and more working people, by saving and by buying their homes, are entering the middle class. Does this not make for stability in the state?

Are they to be excluded from all the benefits of the welfare state? Mr Lingens does not like the abolition of the GLC and the metropolitan councils, but these proposals were approved by the electorate.

Sir Keith Joseph was not humbled by his backbenchers: he had very sensible second thoughts. Not all Conservative backbenchers were opposed in principle to what he was trying to do.

Tax cuts are absolutely essential if the incomes of the lower paid are to be raised and if there is to be an incentive to work instead of relying on payments from the DHSS.

The present Government, under its resolute Prime Minister, has brought inflation down from very high levels. This has helped industry and commerce to recover and indeed our recovery is now the fastest in Europe. More people are at work even though unemployment has not yet started to fall. Above all, there is a new realism in the country at all levels that we have to work and pay our way in the world.

Abroad, the reputation of our country has seldom been so high. What does Mr Lingens want? Does he want the semi-inflation of the SDP/Liberal Alliance, or the full-blooded inflation of the Opposition?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STOKES,
House of Commons,
December 7.

Water charges

From Councillor Ian F. G. Beattie

Sir, Much has been said about the need to make water authorities accountable to the public. The 1983 Water Act went so far as to set up statutory consumer consultative committees, whose specific duties include advising water authorities on charging policies and levels.

What are we to make, then, of the recent announcement by the Secretary of State for the Environment, when he announced that water charges would rise by huge amounts; and, in the case of Thames Water, amounts which are not only huge but quite unnecessary?

The authority's plans were for an average increase to its customers of some 3 per cent, a decrease in real terms but adequate, in the authority's view, to maintain and improve services and to increase capital investment. The Government's proposals would involve a decrease in capital expenditure but an increase in average charges of about 10 per cent - twice the predicted rate of inflation.

Such statements make a mockery of the consumer consultative committees. Who is to stand up for the rights of customers? The Secretary of State should think again about this unjustified, unnecessary - and unnecessary - intervention.

Yours faithfully,
IAN F. G. BEATTIE, Chairman,
Eastern Consumer Consultative Committee, Thames Water,
Members' Room,
Epping Forest District Council,
323 High Street,
Epping,
Essex,
December 4.

Lest we forget

From Mr George Eykyn

Sir, Michael Binyon is wrong to say in his "Letter from Bonn" (November 30) that the Federal Republic of Germany has no Eternal Flame: there is one in Theodor-Heuss-Platz in West Berlin, though this is, I believe, dedicated to peace on the freedom of Germans in the East, not to Germany's war dead; it burns above soil collected from the concentration camps.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE EYKYN,
Magdalen College,
Oxford,
November 30.

Famine in Ethiopia

From Mr N. Islam and Mr B. P. Dutia

Sir, In a recent letter (November 8) on famine in Ethiopia from Mr Peter Curlier and Dr Frances d'Souza, the authors indicate scepticism as to whether the United Nations agencies can predict and document situations which threaten to lead to famine, unless corrective action is taken. They have raised both methodological and operational questions and as FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) officials responsible for giving early warning of impending food shortages we would take this opportunity to clarify the picture.

First, as regards methodology, we should point out that the FAO global information and early warning system prepares crop assessments monthly for all low-income, food-deficit countries, using information collected from a variety of sources, including official reports, assessments by FAO and WFP (World Food Programme) field officers, information from donors and non-governmental relief organizations as well as meteorological data and satellite imagery analysis.

Vital need to review higher education

From the Chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of the Universities of the United Kingdom

Sir, The fortunately short, albeit exceedingly sharp, storm over student grants not only brought out the worst in all of us but ignored the fundamental issues of the access to and the funding of higher education.

Euphoric acceptance of the Robbins principle resulted in more rapid growth than could be absorbed and managed without abuse. Then, at the moment when it was recognized that Robbins required assessment and amendment, economic recession diverted attention and energies to the management of a massive reduction in public expenditure.

Quite apart from the competition between sectors, tough and sometimes unthinking competition has developed within higher education for a greater share of what we all now know to be a shrinking cake. Within individual institutions the keen competition for resources has caused a neglect of premises and an obsolescence of equipment which will yearly add to the magnitude of the problem. Overall the balance between the allocation of resources to teaching and to research has become ever more complex.

With too ready a faith in our national genius to muddle through, Sir Keith took the risk of balancing a marginal increase for science with a decrease in student grants. Largely for the wrong reasons his plan has rebounded against him, but nobody will be the winner unless we accept that the time has passed for ad hoc arrangements capable only of carrying us through to the next public expenditure review.

We must once again think deeply, and across party lines, how expenditure on higher education can be protected as a prudent investment in the future of the nation; what share of that expenditure should be provided through taxation and by what means, and what share directly by the individual beneficiary; to whom and by what means access to higher education should be provided at public expense; how far access for overseas students should be provided; how access can be adapted to meet the needs of an increasingly mobile society; and how all can be managed, balancing public accountancy with our respected traditions of institutional autonomy and academic freedom, within clear limits of national wealth.

Consulting widely whether a radical change should be made in the student support system, which might include loans, is not enough. I

Racism in schools

From Mr John Dewhurst

Sir, As the former head teacher of a West London primary school which included on its roll children of at least 24 nationalities, who has recently moved into teacher education, I feel ideally placed to respond to Roger Scruton ("Punish the real school bullies", December 4). Indeed, since one of the courses which I now teach is called "Education for a multicultural society", I feel that Scruton's latest anti-educationalist polemic is aimed almost personally, and that I must respond.

Like Dr Scruton I, too, am made uneasy by the extremity of some of the anti-racist messages which emanate from the far left. Certainly they have little appeal for the overwhelming majority of my students. Unlike him, though, I do recognize that there is a problem of racial intolerance in this country, a problem which will not vanish because we would prefer to ignore it.

One has only to refer to statistics of unemployment, of housing allocation, of personal assault and

yet, of children in special schools, too, to become uncomfortably aware that there are manifest inequalities in our society which can be closely connected with race.

If some of the literature in the area of multicultural education strikes the uncommitted reader as somewhat extreme in tone, perhaps this is no more than an indication of the tremendous weight of inertia which had to be overcome before the "educational establishment" could be moved to begin developing positive approaches to the problem.

In any event, there are many teachers who believe, like myself, that children in our schools simply must be taught to understand and to tolerate differences between cultural groups in our increasingly diverse society. The consequences of failing to do this are not pleasant to contemplate.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DEWHURST,
St Mary's College,
Strawberry Hill,
Walsgrave Road,
Twickenham,
Middlesex,
December 4.

Quangos in London

From Mr Michael Wheeler

Sir, In our party political broadcast last night (November 28) Kenneth Baker, Minister for Local Government, continually stressed that the Greater London Council had lost most of its important functions like the ambulance service, sewerage and transport to quangos and therefore had little left to do.

Leaving aside the small matter that there are some 30 other services the GLC provides, perhaps one should ask whether Londoners are better off as a result of the transfer of these services to quangos? The answer is not encouraging.

Since the ambulance service was taken away from the GLC its costs have gone up by 27 per cent more than inflation, sewerage by 22 per

cent, even before the addition of the standard charge. Also, because of the crazy financial arrangements contained in the London Regional Transport Act, 1984, Londoners are likely to suffer a 35p in the pound increase in their rate burden for transport next year.

Whilst accepting that there is a lot wrong at County Hall there needs to be put right. It is surely more important that we should fulfil our 1979 manifesto commitment to reduce the number of quangos than abolish our democratically elected institutions.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL WHEELER,
Opposition Spokesman on Finance and General Purposes,
Greater London Council,
Members' Lobby,
The County Hall, SE1,
November 29.

In addition, information is also collected on a number of other indicators of possible food shortages such as sudden changes in wholesale and retail prices, unusual movements of rural populations, unusually low levels of water supplies in reservoirs, etc.

Once a potential problem has been identified by FAO's early warning system the country is visited by a joint FAO/WFP assessment mission on food and agriculture emergency requirements. These missions identify more precisely the exact areas affected by the emergency, the number of people affected and the kind of response required, whether food relief, rehabilitation assistance, or both.

As regards the Ethiopian food emergency we would like to bring to your attention the steps taken by FAO as early as 1983 to provide a warning about impending food crops and the need for assistance.

The FAO early warning system had already warned of a food shortage in Ethiopia as early as October, 1983, and an assessment mission visited the country in February-March, 1984.

From the beginning FAO had

estimated that the food aid requirements of Ethiopia during 1984 would amount to some 400,000 tons, recognizing that this figure was low because it took into account logistic constraints. Yet the response of donors in food aid pledges was less than half the estimated requirement throughout the first nine months of the year.

While the response of donors to the warnings issued by FAO about impending food shortages in African countries has, in general, been generous, the response for Ethiopia was, for various reasons, comparatively slow and inadequate.

The lateness of pledges and deliveries of needed assistance to this stricken country cannot, however, be attributed to lack of adequate or timely warning or to unreliability of the data provided by us.

Yours,
N. ISLAM, Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department,
B. P. DUTIA, Director, Commodities and Trade Division, Food and Agriculture Organization, Viale Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy,
November 23

Church, state and national unity

From the Bishop of Lincoln

Sir, Clifford Longley's article, "A church straining at the bonds of state" (December 6) makes to me strange reading. It implies that Church criticism of some Government policies points to disestablishment. The implication is that when groups disagree they have to separate. But this would imply the height of immaturity for Church and state.

A mature society, as with all mature relationships, is one where conflicts and opposites are faced and yet held together, with creative results. It is one of the tasks of the Church in society to foster and forward this form of common life.

A confrontational style of government does not, of course, contribute to such a society. But this is all the more and not all the less reason for the established Church to make its moral critique of the long-term interests of society as a whole, from within its position "by law established" in the structure of the nation. For when any government of any party is confrontational in ways that may seem to loosen the social fabric, it puts itself outside the One Nation tradition and needs calling back.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON LINCOLN,
Bishop's House,
Eastgate,
Lincoln,
December 6

Price of oil gains

From Sir Peter Tennant

Sir, Those of us who live in the gas or oil-rich Golden Crescent which stretches from Dorsel to Kent are not included in the cost benefit analysis of this new-found wealth. The oil companies certainly are, for onshore costs are estimated at only one quarter of offshore activities.

The Act of 1934 virtually nationalized hydrocarbons below the land we may own or rent. Activities to extract these minerals bring upheaval, mudspreads and added congestion on already busy and dangerous roads as well as blighting of property values.

The Government meanwhile is busy drafting "Yes, Minister" guidelines to enable local authorities to exercise their judgement in granting planning applications.

Mr Buchanan-Smith announces, "there is no question of allowing onshore oil and gas exploration and production at any price. I seek a balance between national and local interests."

This is encouraging, but the draft guidelines as they stand pay scant regard to the rights of individuals and communities and could easily lead to a Criel Down situation.

Many suggestions have been made for the compensation of those who suffer, such as rate rebates or stakes in royalties or the shares of the companies concerned, but they do not seem practical. But might it not be practical for every planning permission granted to be subject to a five-year bond which would be forfeited if any of the conditions imposed by local authorities were broken?

This could go some way towards financing compensation for individuals or the community suffering from the disturbances and financial losses. There have already been instances of broken conditions and penalty clauses might well be the answer.

Yours faithfully,
PETER TENNANT,
Blue Anchor House,
Lincolnshire Road,
Haslemere,
Surrey,
December 3.

Salisbury car park

From the Reverend Canon I. G. D. Dunlop

Sir, Mr Robert Key, Conservative MP for Salisbury, is quoted in your columns (December 3) as describing a plan to create a car park within the city's cathedral close as an "act of vandalism". There is a similar objection in the last issue of *The Sunday Times*, with a cartoon showing an unsightly pile-up of cars and coaches superimposed on a view of the cathedral painted by Constable.

May I try to correct the impression which is being made? The "act of vandalism" - if that is the right word - took place long ago. The close on a Tuesday or a Saturday (market days) in the high summer is not the peaceful oasis of rural calm depicted by Constable. The whole area round the cathedral is jam-packed with cars and coaches, and closely resembles the cartoon in *The Sunday Times*.

The problem confronting the dean and chapter is not, alas, how to preserve an oasis. Unless we exclude the traffic from the close, no oasis exists. The problem is how to accommodate the cars and coaches that come so as to avoid the traffic jams which are a constant nuisance, if not a danger, to the residents in the close.

Yours faithfully,
IAN DUNLOP (Canon and Chancellor of Salisbury Cathedral),
24 The Close,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire,
December 4.

Seasonal offerings?

From Mr and Mrs David Mayo

Sir, No doubt as a result of this year's excellent summer, we have just harvested a substantial crop of almonds from the "ornamental" almond tree in our East Lothian garden.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MAYO,
JUNE MAYO,
Bownmont,
Pencatland,
East Lothian,
December 2.



ADVERTISEMENT

The government's reasons for a two-class medicines plan...

The government's 'limited list' NHS medicines plan could threaten our entire health care system. A system that provides equal care for all, irrespective of the ability to pay for medicines.

Those who can afford it will be able to get exactly what they need, but the poor and the elderly may have to put up with less appropriate medicines.

Such a two-class system would seriously undermine the National Health Service.

Fill in the form for your M.P. and send it to us. We'll do the rest.

...are best kept private

So don't you keep your views private.

**Don't get sick
...get angry.**



The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry.

I oppose the government's proposal to reduce the list of medicines available to me on the National Health Service.
Send to: ABPI, FREEPOST, LONDON SW1A 2YZ.

Your signature
Name of town and postcode only required

NO STAMP
REQUIRED

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Strong start to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 10. Dealings End, Dec 21. \$ Contango Day, Dec 24. Settlement Day, Jan 7.
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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| 372 | Unicomp | 559 | .. | 12.1 | 3.4 |
| 373 | Unicomp | 559 | .. | 12.1 | 3.4 |
| 374 | Unicomp | 559 | .. | 12.1 | 3.4 |
| 375 | Unicomp | 559 | .. | 12.1 | 3.4 |
| 376 | Unicomp | 559 | .. | 12.1 | 3.4 |
| 377 | Unicomp | 559 | .. | 12.1 | 3.4 |
| 378 | Unicomp | 559 | .. | 12.1 | 3.4 |
| 379 | Unicomp | 559 | .. | 12.1 | 3.4 |
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|-------------------------|----------------------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|--|
| 250 | Chandler H West | 250 | | | | | |
| 251 | Chandler H West | 251 | | | | | |
| 252 | Chandler H West | 252 | | | | | |
| 253 | Chandler H West | 253 | | | | | |
| 254 | Chandler H West | 254 | | | | | |
| 255 | Chandler H West | 255 | | | | | |
| 256 | Chandler H West | 256 | | | | | |
| 257 | Chandler H West | 257 | | | | | |
| 258 | Chandler H West | 258 | | | | | |
| 259 | Chandler H West | 259 | | | | | |
| 260 | Chandler H West | 260 | | | | | |
| 261 | Chandler H West | 261 | | | | | |
| 262 | Chandler H West | 262 | | | | | |
| 263 | Chandler H West | 263 | | | | | |
| 264 | Chandler H West | 264 | | | | | |
| 265 | Chandler H West | 265 | | | | | |
| 266 | Chandler H West | 266 | | | | | |
| 267 | Chandler H West | 267 | | | | | |
| 268 | Chandler H West | 268 | | | | | |
| 269 | Chandler H West | 269 | | | | | |
| 270 | Chandler H West | 270 | | | | | |
| 271 | Chandler H West | 271 | | | | | |
| 272 | Chandler H West | 272 | | | | | |
| 273 | Chandler H West | 273 | | | | | |
| OVERSEAS TRADERS | | | | | | | |
| 54 | Northville | 35 | +2 | 3.75 | 2.8 | 7.4 | |
| 55 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 56 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 57 | Harborside Crouselet | 207 | +10 | 1.50 | 0.6 | 0.6 | |
| 58 | Harborside Crouselet | 207 | +10 | 1.50 | 0.6 | 0.6 | |
| 59 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 60 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 61 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 62 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 63 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 64 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 65 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 66 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 67 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 68 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 69 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 70 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 71 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 72 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
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| 74 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 75 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 76 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 77 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 78 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 79 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 80 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 81 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
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| 84 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 85 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 86 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 87 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 88 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 89 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 90 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 91 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 92 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 93 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
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| 95 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 96 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 97 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 98 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 99 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |
| 100 | Cherry Creek | 116 | +1 | 4.25 | 4.5 | 8.8 | |

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| 198 | Dr. Jivry | .. | 11.8 | 2.3 | 53.3 |
| 199 | Rural | +10 | 11.8 | 2.3 | 53.3 |
| 200 | Carlton Coram | +20 | 8.8 | 1.2 | 47.4 |
| 203 | Chapman | 220 | 11.8 | 2.5 | 31.5 |
| 62 | City (Pittsburgh) | +1 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 17.7 |
| 63 | Chapman (Kansas) | 11.8 | .. | .. | .. |
| 104 | DrD | 182 | .. | 0.3 | 61.1 |
| 38 | E Lancer Paper | 104 | -1 | 5.0 | 48.1 |
| 228 | Encyclopedia Pulp | 428 | .. | 7.0 | 1.8 |
| 63 | Green Paper | 220 | .. | 1.1 | 50.0 |
| 147 | Good Relations | 292 | +3 | 5.1 | 7.9 |
| 163 | Low H-G-C | 233 | .. | 4.3 | 1.8 |
| 103 | McCombs | 140 | +5 | 7.3 | 0.8 |
| 105 | Mora of Central | .. | .. | .. | 6.1 |
| 171 | Ogilvy & Mather | 227.4 | .. | .. | 1.1 |
| 25 | Cities Paper | 30 | .. | 0.5 | 1.7 |

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| 180 | Dagen | 316 | | 17.9 | 5.7 | 8.9 |
| 181 | Dan Dwy | 103 | 41.9 | | | |
| 182 | Dan Dwy | 103 | | 1.9 | 10.8 | 7.1 |
| 183 | Dan Dwy | 103 | | 4.5 | 42.6 | 4.8 |
| 184 | Edley Trust | 145 | | 4.5 | 8.1 | 81.7 |
| 185 | Edley Agency | 145 | | | | |
| 186 | Estates Can | 89 | -1 | | | |
| 187 | Estates Pro | 354 | -2 | 11.9 | 9.7 | 15.9 |
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| 386 | Estates Pro | 354 | -2 | 11.9 | 9.7 | 15.9 |
| 387 | Estates Pro | | | | | |

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|-----|----------------|-----|---|------|------|------|
| 113 | Lin Ship Corp | 127 | ● | 1.3 | 6.9 | 22.1 |
| 114 | Lincoln | 127 | ● | 1.3 | 6.9 | 22.1 |
| 145 | LMPC | 352 | ● | 12.9 | 6.9 | 22.1 |
| 146 | LMPC | 352 | ● | 12.9 | 6.9 | 22.1 |
| 57 | McKay Bros | 119 | ● | ● | ● | 22.6 |
| 115 | McKesson | 119 | ● | 12.9 | 13.5 | 21 |
| 116 | McKesson | 119 | ● | 12.9 | 13.5 | 21 |
| 117 | Master Ind | 118 | ● | + | 7.7 | 8.9 |
| 118 | Master Ind | 118 | ● | + | 7.7 | 8.9 |
| 120 | Matheson | 246 | ● | 1.9 | 2.3 | 10.5 |
| 121 | Matheson | 246 | ● | 1.9 | 2.3 | 10.5 |
| 122 | Matheson | 246 | ● | 1.9 | 2.3 | 10.5 |
| 123 | Matheson (A&L) | 78 | ● | 1.9 | 2.3 | 10.5 |
| 124 | Matheson | 78 | ● | 1.9 | 2.3 | 10.5 |
| 76 | New Cananda | 118 | ● | 1.9 | 1.7 | 11.3 |
| 125 | New Cananda | 118 | ● | 1.9 | 1.7 | 11.3 |
| 126 | New Cananda | 118 | ● | 1.9 | 1.7 | 11.3 |
| 127 | New Cananda | 118 | ● | 1.9 | 1.7 | 11.3 |
| 128 | New Cananda | 118 | ● | 1.9 | 1.7 | 11.3 |
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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The BBC still not sending out a clear picture

The BBC is a picture of a wounded monolith. The corporation is under pressure in the perpetual ratings war with commercial broadcasting companies.

It responds in Pavlovian fashion by pushing into new areas like breakfast TV and local radio to hold its own. This costs money, which ultimately is provided by the public through the licence fee. The current £46 colour TV licence lasts until April next year. The BBC would like £65, and the only certainty is that it has a stiff fight on its hands.

Two weeks ago I asked the question here: "If the BBC is asset-rich, should we pay more?" The basic difficulty in finding a rational answer to this and related financial questions that go to the heart of the Beeb's predicament, is the opaqueness of the corporation's accounts. Despite improvements in the latest set (for the financial year ended March 31) they still give off a fairly musty smell. But credit, where credit is due.

In the books for the first time are staff costs. Salaries and wages show an increase, at £327.1 million, of 12.7 per cent over 1983/84, twice as fast as the rate of inflation. At £327 million, salaries and wages were 45 per cent of the total BBC income, well up on the previous year's 42 per cent. No signs appear of any cutbacks. The number of people earning between £30,000 and £35,000 rose from 10 to 22; the TV workforce jumped from 17,100 to 17,679.

Changes in accounting policy have been made to highlight the main areas of expenditure, and the sources of funding such expenditure. The balance sheet and notes have been modified to comply with the Companies Act, 1981, an overdue reform, but not the profit and loss account.

Publications (Radio Times, etc) have sales of £53 million and profits of £4.3 million. BBC Enterprises, consolidated for the first time, has sales of £31.4 million and profits of £6.9 million (against £2.2 million), on net assets of £5.3 million. Both are healthy looking businesses.

Capital expenditure is still charged against revenue. In 1983/84, it was about £1.1 million (£86 million), contributing to the 1983-84 deficit of £7.7 million, a swing from 1982/83's £48 million surplus of over £55 million. The BBC has land, freeholds and long leaseholds in the books at written down value of £111 million. How much would they be worth on up-to-date valuation?

What is evident is the continued erosion of the BBC's financial position. Between 1983 and 1984, the adverse movement in net liquid funds was a £58 million downswing, even though interest on bank loans dropped from £0.8 million to £0.1 million. Bank overdrafts for the Home Services (TV and radio broadcasting in the UK) were stable at around £1.8 million, but other creditors rose from £22.5 million to £28.1 million.

Capital spending commitments are still as high as ever. In 1984, fixed asset additions which are authorised but not contracted for total £85.4 million, while fixed asset additions which are contracted for but not provided for are £20.6 million.

The BBC conveys an impression of continued growth with little sense that this growth needs ultimately to take account of available finance. Is the sale of some of the Beeb's assets such a heinous suggestion. Every other nationalised industry has been forced to do it; is the BBC so special? Many companies find that an imbalance exists between market aspirations; cash flow; and assets. Using assets to generate income flows, via sale and leaseback, is commonplace of modern business.

Another banana skin ahead

Relations between the big clearing banks, the Banks of England and the government in the form of the Treasury have been sorely tested in recent years and would seem to be at a particularly low ebb at the moment.

The banks are no lovers of Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor and architect of a succession of tax measures which have already cost the banks dear, and hold more problems in store with the extension of composite rate tax next spring. Bankers also tend to resent the Bank of England for failing to speak up for their interests more forcibly to the government and the recent row over indemnities to cover likely losses at Johnson Matthey Bankers has not improved relations between the banks and the Old Lady.

Imitation within the Bank of England at the way the clearers grumbled when asked to rally round for the general good are mirrored in about equal measure by dissatisfaction among the banks at having to fork out for something which was not their fault.

The clearers' latest gripe, which sheds interesting light on the complex web of relationships between the government, central bank and banking system, is over the phasing out of the £1 note. The extra costs the banks will incur as a result are likely to far exceed the savings to the government from replacing it with the unpopular coin.

That the clearers appeared initially to welcome the disappearance of the £1 note, is a sign that the Bank of England has not entirely lost its touch to cajole and persuade whatever the experience over JMB. The clearers even appear to have agreed to forgo voicing publicly reservations about the phasing out of the note under Bank of England encouragement.

The changing relationship between the banks and the authorities was also illustrated recently by the way a minor, esoteric dispute between the clearers and Bank of England had to be settled through an arbitration case. It was another example of how the old-fashioned system of informal chats does not always work as effectively as it used to.

Tax fighters head for a showdown

Florida's repeal last Friday of its unitary tax law ends the money war in which campaigners against the tax feared they were floundering. All eyes are now on California where both sides will be marshalling their forces for a possibly decisive encounter next month when another motion to repeal or modify the law will be introduced into the state legislature. The law taxes multinationals on the proportion their local business represents of their business worldwide.

It has been a remarkable campaign in many ways: an object lesson in how influential businessmen can be.

It has educated enough politicians in this arcane subject for an early day motion in the Commons, urging retaliation against the United States to attract the unusually large number of 220 signatures. It has even won round the normally adamant Mr Donald Regan, the US treasury secretary, who now hints at federal action if the states do not put their houses in order.

The campaign has been highly effective at the practical as well as the theoretical level. Florida's change of heart owed much to the collapse of investment in the state after it adopted the tax.

California is a less easy nut to crack. As one of the world's biggest economies it offers far more than, say, Oregon, which also repealed the tax recently, for foreign companies. California is also the home of populist tax changes. Trickiest of all is the relationship between the foreign opponents of unitary tax and American multinationals. The latter are strongly hostile to the tax, but in Oregon they were left in its net. A similar solution in California would be bitterly resisted by American companies.

It may be that the campaigners will yet have to call the Regan cavalry to their rescue.

Coal chief to join Heron board

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Hugh Jenkins, who is to leapfrog from chief of the Coal Board's pension investment team to the main board of Heron International, one of the largest private companies in the world, last night admitted that he was ready to quit the job he has held for 12 years even before he ran into opposition from Mr Arthur Scargill and the NUM over his investment policy.

Mr Jenkins said his battle with Mr Scargill had not had a "major impact" on his decision to move. "You don't turn your back on a problem because of the way the wind is blowing. But I was approached by Heron about 18 months ago and felt I had to see through my responsibilities to the pension funds," he said.

Mr Jenkins' departure will leave a big gap at the Coal Board, who should not speculate today on his successor, although a spokesman said: "There appear to be three obvious candidates - Mr David Prosser, who looks after industrial investments; Mr Robert Juddery, responsible for property and Mr Barry Southcott, equities."

Export credits mandate

Despite strong opposition, the EEC now has a common tougher policy on monitoring export credits mixed with development aid. The European Commission has been authorised to put this forward today in Paris when the subject comes up in the OECD. Ian Murray reports from Brussels.

The commission has been told to negotiate for much greater transparency in these mixed credit deals in future. It wants to see a better definition of what loans actually are being made.

This negotiating mandate was agreed after Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, suggested to other finance ministers meeting in Brussels yesterday that they should take a vote on the issue.

MARKET SUMMARY

| STOCK MARKETS | MAIN PRICE CHANGES | CURRENCIES |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| FT Ind Ord 930.3 (+7.3) | RISER: Towles "A" 54 (+12) | London: Cleeve |
| FT-Air Share 567.87 (+3.32) | Excelibur 10 (+2) | £: \$1.2035 (+0.0025) |
| FT Govt Securities 83.29 (+0.02) | Flextech 58 (+13) | £: DM 3.7200 (+0.0225) |
| FT-SE 100 1197.9 (+7.8) | N Brit Steel 13 (+2) | £: Sfr 3.0715 (+0.0255) |
| Bargains 24,882 | Internat Pers 130 (+2) | £: FF 11.4000 (+0.0830) |
| Dataseam USM 105.45 (+0.55) | Burgess Prod 98 (+14) | £: Yen 286.30 (+0.15) |
| New York | Geo-Rosen 41 (+ 5) | £: Index 74.8 (+0.1) |
| Dow Jones 1161.44 (-1.77) | Bio-Isolates 48 (+6) | New York (close) |
| Nikkei Dow 11,316.87 (-150.06) | Centraway Tr 85 (+10) | £: \$1.2017 |
| Amsterdam 178.1 (-0.5) | Arjen Elec 43 (+ 5) | £: DM 3.0947 |
| Sidney: AO 724.2 (-2.5) | Dubiler 195 (+21) | £: Index 142.6 (-0.1) |
| Frankfurt | Blair 28 (+ 3) | |
| Commerzbank 1087.0 (-5.5) | Danison Oil 415 (+42) | |
| Brussels | Deon Davs 105 (+10) | |
| General 159.32 (-0.18) | Falcon Res 195 (+25) | |
| Paris: CAC 181.7 (unchanged) | | |
| Zurich | | |
| SKA General 320.7 (+0.7) | | |

GOLD

London findings
am \$326.25 pm \$326.25
close \$326.50-\$327.00
New York
Comex (lastest) \$325.70

Lloyds bans underwriters in the Fidentia affair

By Alison Eadie

The ruling council of Lloyd's insurance market yesterday took its first major disciplinary action against Lloyd's members since the Lloyd's Act of 1982 gave statutory backing to the market's self-regulatory structure.

It expelled Mr Raymond Brooks and suspended for 21 months Mr Terence Dooley, both former underwriters with Brooks & Dooley (Underwriting) agency. Costs of £40,000 were awarded against Mr Brooks and £12,000 against Mr Dooley.

A 231-page Lloyd's report showed that Mr Brooks and Mr Dooley had placed reinsurance contracts with the Fidentia Marine Insurance Company of Bermuda, which they both controlled. Over a 13-year period, Fidentia gained a net

£6.2 million from Brooks and Dooley syndicates. The names on the syndicates were not aware of the existence of Fidentia.

A committee of Lloyd's names, representing the 1,000 names on Brooks & Dooley syndicates, also yesterday recommended that litigation should be started against Mr Brooks and Mr Dooley, against the companies they controlled, including Fidentia, and against Brooks & Dooley (Underwriting) now under new management.

The committee is asking names for financial support, if they want to go to litigation. If there is insufficient support after 28 days, the committee will disband and the idea of legal action be dropped. Brooks & Dooley (Under-

writing) has been trying to hammer out a compensation offer to names since the summer. However, the committee, headed by Mr Mark Farrer, a partner of the solicitors Farrer & Co, has told names that no offer is likely in the foreseeable future and any offer that might be made would be too small.

In its third report to names, going out this week, the committee says total claims from names would probably be around £5 million. The sum being considered by Brooks & Dooley (Underwriting) was understood to be less than £2 million.

Mr George Stevens, a director of Brooks & Dooley (Underwriting), said one of the difficulties of formulating an offer was getting everyone who

should contribute to commit themselves. Although Mr Brooks and Mr Dooley had given full support, others, including members agents and brokers, were not all agreed.

Tax problems are expected to be crucial in persuading names to take legal action. The committee says the Inland Revenue will require payment whether or not the names are reimbursed for profits wrongly taken away from them.

One former name on Brooks & Dooley syndicates has already gone to law. Mr Christopher Moran, who was expelled as a member of Lloyd's, filed a writ for conspiracy against Brooks and Mr Dooley, and seven other defendants last June. He believes £10 million is the correct figure for a compensation offer.

US 'aims to cut deficit to 2% of GNP'

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The Reagan Administration refuses to accept the possibility of another protracted political stalemate over the US budget which would result in no action to reduce record federal deficits, high-level treasury officials said.

Mr Beryl Sprinkel, Undersecretary of the Treasury, said yesterday that the administration's ultimate weapon was the President himself, who plans to go direct to the people, even if it means angering members of his own party, to gain support for his controversial proposals.

Mr Sprinkel said: "Our number one priority is to get the deficit down, reducing it as a percentage of gross national product from the current level of 5.5 per cent to 2 per cent by 1988."

This will require "difficult decisions", many not yet taken by the president, Mr Sprinkel said, noting that the administration's goal is to reduce the deficit by \$42 billion (£35 billion) in the 1986 tax year and by \$110 billion in the 1988 tax year.

But congressional leaders said that the austerity programme proposed by Mr Reagan to his Cabinet has little chance of being adopted unless the President builds "a far greater sense of crisis about the budget".

The budget working papers that Mr Reagan presented to his Cabinet would eliminate more than two dozen programmes, impose a 5 per cent pay cut on two million federal workers, roll back farm subsidies and student loans and freeze many spending programmes.

Such austerity so soon after an election campaign in which Mr Reagan painted a picture of a resurgent America riding high on "the best economic recovery in 30 years", is not likely to go down well, say leaders of both political parties.

The working papers also outline cuts in international aid programmes. Mr Reagan proposes, for example, that the US withdraw from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and end its \$4 million contribution to the FAO.

Matthey chief retires

The board of Johnson Matthey has agreed to the early retirement of Dr James Hughes, managing director, for personal and family reasons. Dr Hughes will retire at the end of the year but will remain on the board as a non-executive. Mr Joseph Stevenson will take his place until a new managing director is appointed.

The response of shareholders to the £25m rights issue of convertible preference shares in the ailing group is expected to be announced today. Depending on the response, the shareholding of Charter Consolidated will increase from 27.9 per cent to a minimum of 33.34 per cent and a maximum of 46 per cent.

Waddington predicts 69% rise in profits

By Philip Robinson

John Waddington yesterday fired what is likely to be his final broadside in fighting off the £44 million takeover from Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing & Communication Corporation. The offer expires at 3pm on Thursday.

The games, packaging and printing company, famous for Monopoly, forecast that pretax profits for the year to the end of next March will climb by 69 per cent to £5.7 million.

The ultimate ownership of BPCC, Waddington's second line of attack, has been shelved. But if BPCC loses on Thursday, Waddington will move to discontinue its stake unless true beneficial ownership can be established. At present, Mr Maxwell says the ownership is a private matter.

Both sides acknowledge that the battle for Waddington will be close, perhaps settled by 70,000 votes. Indications last night were that the Waddington board, headed by Mr Victor Watson, has the support of 45 per cent of the total votes.

Total votes obtained by BPCC when it last bid for Waddington was 47 per cent. That included the 25.7 per cent already owned. The key could well be the combined investments funds of S. G. Warburg, the merchant bank, which holds just under 15 per cent of the votes, and so far is uncommitted.



Victor Watson: final broadside at BPCC

Last night, Henry Ansbacher, BPCC's merchant bank adviser, was challenging Waddington's claim that its effective tax rate is unlikely to exceed 25 per cent before 1987-88. The figure is crucial when valuing whether BPCC's offer is generous or not. Last year tax was just under 16 per cent.

Waddington says that on forecast pretax profits of £5.7 million, tax will be just over 16 per cent. Earnings per share will be 32 per cent higher at 37.2p. On that basis BPCC's 500p share cash offer gives Waddington an exit price earnings ratio of 8.7, just two per cent higher than the FT-Averages figure for the packaging and paper sector as a whole.

Waddington points out that shareholders accepting the BPCC offer will forfeit the 17.1p gross interim dividend.

Exco buys money broking unit

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Exco International, the financial services group, has agreed to buy Laurie, Milbank's stock market moneybroking operation. Exco is believed to be paying about £10 million in goodwill for the business.

Exco, which has no desire to be a market-maker in the Stock Exchange of the future, says the move is in line with its aim of developing as a middleman in financial services.

Stock market moneybrokers, of which Laurie, Milbank's is much the biggest, borrow stock from institutions to lend to market-makers, preserving confidentiality between the two parties.

The activity has similarities with the riskless principal role which inter-dealer brokers (IDBs) will undertake and which Exco also plans to develop through another company. IDBs will effect confidential transactions between market-makers in the gilt market.

Exco will become a temporary limited partner in Laurie, Milbank, which has already agreed to link with Chase Manhattan, until the moneybroking side is hived off at big bang day. The moneybroking operation employs about 25 people and when it is separated Exco may initially have to inject about £5 million of capital.

Dixons team joins Currys

The bitter £250 million High Street bid battle between Dixons and Currys looks to be heading for a peaceful conclusion with the appointment yesterday of the top Dixons management team, headed by its chairman, Mr Stanley Kalms, to the Currys board. The Currys family resigned simultaneously from their directorships.

Compensation may have totalled no more than £350,000 for the seven directors, including the former managing director Mr Terry Curry, who resigned.

Dixons now holds more than 60 per cent of Currys.

Inflation eases

Inflationary pressure eased last month, with official figures showing a slowdown in the rate of increase in producer prices. Manufacturers' input costs rose by 0.9 per cent in November, after a 1.9 per cent rise in October. The main cause was higher electricity costs associated with higher winter usage.

Norcros upset

Norcros, the construction to ceramics group, disappointed the City with interim pretax profits of £14.1 million for the half year to September 30, slightly up on the £13.9 million reported last year. Turnover rose from £164.7 million to £179.9 million. The interim dividend has been increased from 2.5p to 2.6p.

Tempus, page 25

Profits leap

Baker Perkins, the food, printing and chemical machines manufacturer, has reported pretax profits of £4.9 million for the six months to September 30, significantly up on the £1.6 million it made a year ago.

Tempus, page 25

Brewer's record

Greenall Whitley, the Warrington brewer, saw profits for the year to September 28 rise by 17.9 per cent to a record £28.3 million. Sales rose by 11 per cent to £287 million. A lower tax charge helped push earnings ahead by 26.8 per cent to £16.3m.

Tempus, page 25

£1m rise

Hogg Robinson, the insurance broking and travel group, announced interim pretax profits to September 30 up £1 million, to £4.4 million.

Tempus, page 25

HUNGARIAN INTERNATIONAL BANK LIMITED

LONDON

The Board is pleased to announce a pre-tax profit of £5,478,384 for the year ended 30th September 1984 and present below extracts from the consolidated balance sheets.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| *Issued Fully Paid Capital | £8,000,000 |
| Reserves | £6,764,348 |
| Subordinated Unsecured Loan Stock | £2,000,000 |
| Deferred Taxation | £6,350,572 |

£23,114,920

Balance sheet total £198,115,198

*The Issued Fully Paid Capital of the Bank was increased by £2,000,000 to £10,000,000 on 6th December 1984 by the capitalisation of £2,000,000 of the Reserves of the Bank.

The Bank continues to maintain a very high level of liquidity and very low gearing, and the Directors are optimistic that 1985 will be another successful year. The 1984 figures will be published shortly, please contact the Company Secretary for a copy, telephone 01-606 5371.

THE DIRECTORS, MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF THE HUNGARIAN INTERNATIONAL BANK LIMITED WISH ALL THEIR FRIENDS SEASONAL GREETINGS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

This Advertisement includes information given in compliance with the Regulations of the Council of The Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland ("The Stock Exchange") for the purpose of giving information to the public with regard to the Inter-American Development Bank ("The Bank") and the Stock. Full particulars on the Bank are available in the Explanatory Statement.

The Bank has taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated herein are true and accurate in all material respects and that there are no other material facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement herein whether of fact or of opinion. The Bank accepts responsibility accordingly.



INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Issue on a Yield Basis

of

£100,000,000 LOAN STOCK 2015

payable as to £30 per cent. of the nominal amount on application and as to the balance of the issue price by June 19, 1985 with interest payable half-yearly on November 15 and May 15

Baring Brothers & Co., Limited

County Bank Limited

Hill Samuel & Co. Limited

Kleinwort, Benson Limited

Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited

Lloyds Bank International Limited

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited

N.M. Rothschild & Sons Limited

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited

S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the £100,000,000 Loan Stock 2015 (the "Stock") to be admitted to the Official List for quotation in the Gilt-edged market. The Stock will initially only be available in registered form, transferable in multiples of one penny. Renounceable allotment letters (partly paid) will be despatched on Wednesday, December 19, 1984. Stock Certificates will be despatched on July 10, 1985 provided the balance of the money payable has been duly paid.

No person is authorised to give any information or to make any representation not contained herein or in the Explanatory Statement dated December 10, 1984 giving any information relating to the Bank (or any abridgement thereof or thereof authorised by the Bank) and any information or representation not contained herein or therein must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Bank or by any of the Managers named above. This document does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy the Stock in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction.

The Stock is not open for applications to subscribe by U.S. persons. "U.S. person" means any person who is a national, citizen or resident of, or who is normally resident in, the United States, including the estate of any such person, corporations and partnerships created or organised in the United States and "United States" means the United States of America, its territories and possessions and all areas subject to its jurisdiction.

The application list will open at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, December 13, 1984 and will close later the same day.

INFORMATION RELATING TO THE ISSUE

Determination of Rate of Interest, Issue Price and Issue Yield
The Stock will have attached such rate of interest and be issued at such price as will result in the Stock having a Gross Redemption Yield equal to the Issue Yield as determined on the basis described below.

The Issue Yield shall mean the sum of one per cent. and the Gross Redemption Yield, rounded to three places of decimals (with 0.0005 being rounded upwards), on 131 per cent. Treasury Stock 2004-2008 (the "Reference Stock") calculated by reference to the price of the Reference Stock on The Stock Exchange 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 12, 1984, such price to be determined by Baring Brothers & Co., Limited ("Barings") to be the arithmetic mean of the bid and offered prices quoted on a dealing basis for settlement on the following business day by three jobbers in the Gilt-edged market. The Gross Redemption Yield on the Reference Stock will be expressed as a percentage and will be calculated on the basis set out in the *Journal of the Institute of Actuaries*, Vol. 105, Part 1, 1978, page 18.

The rate of interest attaching to the Stock will be an integral multiple of one eighth of one per cent. and will be consistent with an issue price as near as possible to 100 per cent. The issue price will be expressed as a percentage rounded to three decimal places (with 0.0005 being rounded upwards).

It is intended that notice of the Issue Yield, rate of interest, issue price and the amount of the first interest payment will be published in the *Financial Times* on Thursday, December 13, 1984.

Underwriting Arrangements
By an Underwriting Agreement dated December 10, 1984, Barings, County Bank Limited, Hill Samuel & Co. Limited, Kleinwort, Benson Limited, Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, Lloyds Bank International Limited, Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited, N.M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited and S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd. (the "Managers") have agreed with the Bank to underwrite the issue of the Stock.

Barings, on behalf of the Managers, and the Bank may agree in certain circumstances to terminate the Underwriting Agreement, which is subject to certain conditions and accordingly, if they so agree or the Underwriting Agreement does not become unconditional, applications for the Stock will become void or, as the case may be, no applications for Stock will be accepted.

Terms of Payment in Respect of Applications

Each application, unless made by a recognised bank or stockbroker taking advantage of the alternative method of payment described below, must be accompanied by a cheque payable to "Barings Brothers & Co., Limited" and crossed "IADB Loan", representing payment at the rate of £30 per cent. of the nominal amount of the Stock applied for. Such cheques must be drawn on a branch in the United Kingdom (including Northern Ireland), the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man of a bank which is either a member of the London or Scottish Clearing Houses or which has arranged for its cheques to be cleared through the facilities provided for the members of those Clearing Houses.

An alternative method of payment is available in respect of payments of £50,000 or more only to recognised banks or stockbrokers who irrevocably engage to pay Barings for credit to the account designated "IADB Loan" by 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 19, 1984 the amount in Town Clearing Funds representing payment at the rate of £30 per cent. of the nominal amount of the Stock in respect of which their applications shall have been accepted. The expression "Town Clearing Funds" shall mean a cheque, bank payment order or bankers' draft which is eligible for presentation in the Town Clearing System in the City of London.

Barings, on behalf of the Bank, reserves the right to retain the relevant allotment letters and surplus application moneys (if any) pending clearance of applicants' remittances.

The balance of the amount payable on the Stock allotted must be paid so as to clear by 12 noon on Wednesday, June 19, 1985. Any amount paid in advance of its due date shall not bear interest.

Failure to pay the balance on any Stock when due will render all amounts previously paid liable to forfeiture and the allotment liable to cancellation. Interest at the rate per annum of 4 per cent. above the base rate for the time being of Barings may be charged on such balance if accepted after its due date. The Bank further reserves the right, without prejudice to any other rights, in default of payment to sell any such Stock fully paid for its own account.

The expression "recognised bank or stockbroker" shall mean any organisation which is a recognised bank for the purposes of the Banking Act 1979 and any firm of stockbrokers which is a member of The Stock Exchange and such other banks or brokers as Barings shall at their absolute discretion agree for the purposes of the issue.

Delivery

Renounceable allotment letters (partly paid) in respect of Stock allotted will be despatched on Wednesday, December 19, 1984 by first class post at the risk of the person submitting the application in accordance with the terms of the Application Form.

Allotment letters may be split up to 3.00 p.m. on Monday, June 17, 1985 in accordance with the instructions contained therein into denominations or integral multiples of £100 nominal amount of Stock.

Unless a duly renounced fully paid allotment letter with the registration application form duly completed is received by Barings by 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19, 1985 the Stock represented by such allotment letter will, when fully paid, be registered in the name of the original allottee and thereafter Stock will be transferred only by instrument of transfer.

Stock Certificates will be despatched on July 10, 1985 after which date allotment letters will cease to be valid for any purpose.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE STOCK

The issue of the Stock has been authorised by a Resolution of the Executive Directors of the Bank passed on November 28, 1984 and will be constituted as an unsecured obligation of the Bank by an Instrument (to be dated December 19, 1984 (the "Instrument")) to be executed by the Bank and deposited with Barings.

The Stock is not an obligation of any government.

The following is a summary of the terms and conditions relating to the Stock:

Nature
The Stock will represent a direct and unsecured obligation of the ordinary capital resources of the Bank for the due and punctual payment of principal and interest in respect of the Stock and for the performance of all obligations of the Bank with respect thereto. However, the Agreement Establishing the Inter-American Development Bank (as amended) allows the merger of the inter-regional capital stock and the ordinary capital stock of the Bank at such time as the Bank shall have discharged its liabilities on all its ordinary capital borrowings which were outstanding at December 31, 1974. In the event of such merger, the Stock would be payable from the merged capital resources.

The Stock will rank *pari passu* with all bonds, notes, stock and other evidences of indebtedness issued, assumed, or guaranteed by the Bank and payable from the same capital resources for the time being of the Stock.

Negative Pledge
As long as any of the Stock shall be outstanding and unpaid, the Bank will not cause or permit to be created on any of its property or assets any mortgage, pledge or other lien or charge or security for any bonds, notes, stock or other evidences of indebtedness heretofore or hereafter issued, assumed or guaranteed by the Bank for money borrowed (other than purchase money mortgages, pledges or liens on property purchased by the Bank as security for all or part of the purchase price thereof), unless the Stock shall be secured by such mortgage, pledge or other lien or charge equally and ratably with such bonds, notes, stock or other evidences of indebtedness.

Interest
The Stock will bear interest from December 19, 1984 at a rate per annum to be determined in accordance with "Determination of Rate of Interest, Issue Price and Issue Yield" above. Interest will be payable by equal half-yearly instalments on November 15 and May 15 ("Interest Payment Dates") in each year except that the first payment of interest will be for the period from December 19, 1984 to November 15, 1985 and will be calculated using the following formula:

$$I = R \times \frac{182}{365} \times \frac{X}{P} + R \times \frac{149}{365}$$

where
I is the first payment of interest on £100 nominal amount of Stock (rounded to three decimal places with 0.0005 being rounded upwards),
R is the percentage rate of interest attaching to the Stock, and
P is the issue price.

Interest will cease to accrue on the Stock on the due date for redemption thereof unless payment of principal is improperly withheld or refused by the Bank.

Form and Transfer
The Stock will initially be issued in registered form and will be transferable in multiples of one penny by an instrument in writing as if the Stock were a security to which Section 1 of the Stock Transfer Act 1963 and The Stock Exchange (Completion of Bargains) Act 1976 of Great Britain applied or by any other form approved by the Bank. The Initial Register and Transfer Office for the Stock will be at Barings, Bourne House, 34 Beekenhall Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4TU.

The Bank reserves the right to terminate the appointment of the Registrar provided that no such termination shall take effect until a registrar having a specified office in London has been appointed and notice of whose appointment has been given to holders of the Stock in accordance with "Notices" below.

Redemption and Purchase

(a) **Redemption**
Unless previously purchased and cancelled or redeemed, the Bank will redeem the Stock at par on May 15, 2015.

(b) Purchases and Cancellation

The Bank may at any time purchase Stock on any recognised stock exchange or by tender (available to all holders of the Stock alike) at any price or by private treaty at a price (exclusive of accrued interest and all costs of purchase) not exceeding 120 per cent. of the middle market quotation of the Stock on The Stock Exchange (or, failing such quotation, on such other stock exchange on which the Stock is listed for the time being) at the close of business on the last business day before the date of purchase, but save as aforesaid, the Bank may not purchase any Stock. The Bank will be entitled to hold and deal with Stock purchased under this paragraph (b), which may be cancelled or not as the Bank thinks fit.

Payments

Payments of principal and interest will be made in pounds sterling by warrant, drawn on a Town Clearing Branch of a bank in the City of London, which will be sent to the holders' risk by post to persons who are registered as holders of Stock at the close of business on the relevant Record Date (as defined below) or to their nominated agents and made payable to such holders or as they may direct. In the case of joint holders, the warrant will be sent to the first-named holder unless instructions to the contrary are given in writing. The "Record Date" shall mean the third day before an Interest Payment Date but should such third day fall on a day on which the specified office of the Registrar is not open for business then the Record Date shall mean the first day thereafter on which such specified office is open for business.

Events of Default

If the Bank shall default in the payment of the principal of, or interest on, or in the performance of any covenant in respect of a purchase fund or a sinking fund in, any bonds or notes (including the Stock) or similar present or future obligations which have been issued, assumed or guaranteed by the Bank or in the performance of any other obligation arising from "Negative Pledge" above, and such default shall continue for a period of 90 days, then at any time thereafter and during the continuance of such default the holder of any of the Stock may deliver or cause to be delivered to the Bank at its Principal Office in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, United States of America, written notice that such holder elects to declare the principal of all Stock held by him to be due and payable, and on the third day after such notice shall be so delivered to the Bank the principal of such Stock shall become due and payable, unless prior to that time all such defaults theretofore existing shall have been cured.

Prescription

Principal will cease to be payable on the expiry of a period of 10 years and interest will cease to be payable on the expiry of a period of 5 years, in each case from the due date.

Replacement of Stock Certificates

If any Stock Certificate is mutilated, defaced, destroyed, stolen or lost it may be replaced at the specified office of the Registrar upon payment by the claimant of such costs as may be incurred in connection therewith and on such terms as to evidence and indemnity as the Bank and the Registrar may require. Mutilated or defaced Stock Certificates must be surrendered before replacement will be issued.

Bearer Stock

The Instrument will provide that the Bank may, by executing a supplemental instrument in form satisfactory to the Registrar but without the consent of the holders of the Stock, make provision for the Stock to be exchangeable for Stock in bearer form and for such Stock to be exchangeable for Stock in registered form, in each case at the option of the holder, all on such terms as will be set forth in such supplemental instrument. In such event the terms of the Stock shall, as from the date specified in such supplemental instrument, be deemed to include such provisions and all the Stock will be entitled to the benefit of, and be held subject to, such provisions.

Further Issues

If the Bank wishes to issue further stock so as to form a single issue with the Stock, it shall be at liberty to constitute such further stock by a supplemental instrument on terms that it shall be or become consolidated and form a single issue with the Stock.

Modification of Rights

Except as mentioned above, the conditions of the Stock, the provisions of the Instrument and the rights of the holders of the Stock will be subject to modification by Extraordinary Resolution of the holders of the Stock as provided in the Instrument. Such a Resolution will require a majority of not less than three-quarters of the votes cast thereon.

Notices

All notices shall be valid if despatched by post to the holders of the Stock at their registered addresses (in the case of joint holders to the address of the holder whose name stands first in the Register). Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given on the day following the date of such despatch.

Governing Law

The Stock and the provisions of the Instrument will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England. Legal proceedings in connection therewith may be brought in the courts of England.

INFORMATION RELATING TO THE STOCK

Purchase Fund
By an Agreement dated December 10, 1984 (the "Purchase Agency Agreement"), the Bank has appointed Barings as its purchase agent (together with any successor, the "Purchase Agent") in relation to the Stock (which for this purpose includes the stock of any further issue made pursuant to "Terms and Conditions of the Stock - Further Issues" above) and it has become consolidated with the Stock the outstanding balance of the Purchase Fund as at the date of the Agreement. The Purchase Agent may, at its sole discretion, consider reasonable in the light of then prevailing market conditions, but not exceeding the issue price of the £100,000,000 nominal amount of Stock now being offered (or, so long as such Stock remains partly paid, £30 per cent. of the nominal amount thereof) at such times within such two year period as the Purchase Agent may at its sole discretion determine. Stock so purchased will be cancelled. The nominal amount of Stock which the Purchase Agent may be required to purchase pursuant to the Purchase Agency Agreement will be reduced to the extent that the Bank purchases Stock otherwise than through the Purchase Agent and submits such Stock to the Purchase Agent for cancellation. Within 21 days of each Interest Payment Date the Bank will announce the nominal amount of Stock cancelled pursuant to the Purchase Agency Agreement during the six months preceding such Interest Payment Date.

The Bank undertakes that it will not terminate the Purchase Agency Agreement during the above two year period or seek to amend it so as to reduce the £5,000,000 nominal amount or the two year period or the maximum prices mentioned above. Any amendment to the Purchase Agency Agreement will be notified to holders of the Stock in the same manner as notices to holders of the Stock are required to be given in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Stock.

The above undertaking is not a term or condition of the Stock. The Purchase Agent will act solely as the agent of the Bank and does not assume any duty of agency or trust towards the subscribers of the Stock or the holders for the time being of the Stock.

Current United Kingdom Tax Treatment and Stamp Duty
Interest on the Stock is payable without deduction of United Kingdom income tax. On the occasion of each interest payment the Registrar will supply the Inland Revenue with the names and addresses of the holders of the Stock to whom interest is due, the amount of Stock held by them, the names and addresses of any other persons to whom interest is paid on the instructions of such holders and the amount of interest paid to each such person.

The Stock will not be a "deep discount security" the tax treatment of which falls to be determined by reference to Section 36 of, and Schedule 9 to, the Finance Act 1984. The Inland Revenue have confirmed that, in the event of the issue price of the Stock being below its nominal value, no part of that nominal value paid on redemption of the Stock on May 15, 2015 (or upon the Stock becoming redeemable following an event of default pursuant to the provisions set out under "Events of Default" above) will be treated as subject to United Kingdom tax as income (except where the recipient is a person holding the Stock as a dealer for United Kingdom tax purposes). They have also confirmed that, under current law, on a disposal of the Stock in the open market by a holder of the Stock (other than a disposal by a person holding the Stock as a dealer for United Kingdom tax purposes, but including any disposal by any other person on a purchase made by the Bank pursuant to the provisions set out under "Redemption and Purchase" or "Purchase Fund" above), no part of the disposal proceeds received will be subject to tax as income.

The Bank has been advised that the Stock will be a qualifying corporate bond within the meaning of Section 64 of the Finance Act 1984 for the purposes of United Kingdom tax on capital gains on the basis that the Inland Revenue have confirmed, *inter alia*, that the fact that the Stock may be issued at a discount envisaged in this issue will not of itself mean that the conditions of Section 64 (2)(b) are not satisfied. As a qualifying corporate bond, gains on Stock held for more than 12 months will generally be exempt from that tax by virtue of Section 67 of the Capital Gains Tax Act 1979 (as extended by Section 64 of the Finance Act 1984). Capital losses on disposal of Stock held for more than 12 months from the relevant acquisition will not be allowable losses. If the disposal is within 12 months from the relevant acquisition, any gain will be taxable and any capital loss will be allowable, subject to the detailed legislation dealing with the identification of securities and utilisation of losses.

Transfers of the Stock are free of United Kingdom stamp duty.
Persons contemplating the acquisition of Stock who are uncertain as to their United Kingdom tax treatment or as to their treatment under the revenue laws of other jurisdictions should consult their professional advisers.

Stock Exchange Listing

The Stock will be eligible to be dealt in on The Stock Exchange in the Gilt-edged market. The Stock will normally be traded for settlement and delivery on the working day after the date of the transaction. Under current market practice the price of the Stock will be quoted inclusive of accrued interest until the Stock has five years or less to run to maturity.

It is expected that dealings in the Stock on The Stock Exchange will begin on Friday, December 14, 1984, without documents of title and at seller's risk, for deferred settlement on Thursday, December 20, 1984.

Trustee Status

When the Stock is listed it will be an investment falling within Part II of the First Schedule to the Trustee Investments Act 1961.

Insurance Company Regulations

The Bank is an "approved financial institution" within the meaning of Part V of the Insurance Company Regulations 1981.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds to the Bank from the issue of the Stock will be included in its ordinary capital resources and used in its ordinary operations.

SUMMARY INFORMATION REGARDING THE BANK

All amounts set forth below are expressed in current United States dollars.

Establishment, Domestic and Membership

The Inter-American Development Bank is an international institution, the members of which are governments. It was established and is operating under the Agreement Establishing the Inter-American Development Bank signed by those governments. The Bank officially began operations on October 1, 1960. Its principal office is located in Washington, D.C. Forty-three governments are members of the Bank, including the United States and twenty-six other American governments, and the governments of sixteen non-regional countries.

Purpose of the Bank

The purpose of the Bank is to further the economic and social development of the regional developing member countries, individually and collectively.

Capital Resources of the Bank

The capital resources of the Bank consist of the inter-regional capital resources and the ordinary capital resources. The inter-regional capital resources are held, obligated and otherwise disposed of entirely separate from the ordinary capital resources.

The Agreement provides for the ultimate merger of the inter-regional and ordinary capital resources. It is intended to propose to member governments that the merger take place by the end of 1986. In this connection, the Board of Executive Directors has authorised the advance redemption by the end of 1986 of the Bank's ordinary capital borrowings issued prior to 1975 and maturing after December 31, 1986. The purpose of the advance redemption is to establish the preconditions for the merger of the two capitals.

Capital Borrowings Outstanding as of June 30, 1984 (\$000's)

| | Inter-regional | Ordinary | Illustrative Combined |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Repayable in: | | | |
| United States dollars | \$ 867,680 | \$ 1,156,269 | \$ 2,023,949 |
| Currencies of other regional members | — | 15,935 | 15,935 |
| Currencies of non-regional members | 2,031,794 | 1,318,163 | 3,349,957 |
| Total Borrowings | \$ 2,899,474 | \$ 2,490,367 | \$ 5,389,841 |

Capital Stock and Reserves as of June 30, 1984 (\$000's)

| | Inter-regional | Ordinary | Illustrative Combined |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Subscribed Capital | \$ 8,292,343 | \$13,608,746 | \$21,901,089 |
| Less-Callable portion of subscriptions | 7,437,299 | 12,358,335 | 19,795,634 |
| Paid-in Capital Stock | 855,044 | 1,250,411 | 2,105,455 |
| General Reserve | 171,683 | 1,270,118 | 1,441,801 |
| Special Reserve | 57,369 | 301,730 | 359,099 |
| Total Paid-in Capital Stock and Reserves | \$ 1,084,098 | \$ 2,822,259 | \$ 3,906,357 |

(1) The callable portion of inter-regional capital subscriptions, totalling \$7,437,299,000 may be called only when required to meet the obligations of the Bank for funds borrowed or on loans guaranteed by it. This amount may not be called by the Bank to make loans.

(2) The callable portion of ordinary capital subscriptions, totalling \$12,358,335,000 may be called only when required to meet the obligations of the Bank for funds borrowed or on loans guaranteed by it. This amount may not be called by the Bank to make loans.

Loan Operations

As of June 30, 1984 the Bank had approved loans from its inter-regional capital resources in an aggregate principal amount equivalent to \$7,404,551,000 to finance programmes or projects in 18 countries. Of that amount, sales to participants and repayments by borrowers were the equivalent of \$459,893,000, the undisbursed balances were the equivalent of \$4,657,350,000 and outstanding balances held by the Bank were the equivalent of \$2,287,308,000.

As of June 30, 1984 the Bank had approved loans from its ordinary capital resources in an aggregate principal amount equivalent to \$7,941,725,000 to finance programmes or projects in 22 countries. Of that amount, sales to participants and repayments by borrowers were the equivalent of \$2,333,124,000, the undisbursed balances were the equivalent of \$3,349,580,000 and outstanding balances held by the Bank were the equivalent of \$3,259,021,000.

Summary of Balance Sheet of Inter-regional and Ordinary Capital as of June 30, 1984 (\$000's)

| | Inter-regional | Ordinary |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Cash | \$ 13,519 | \$ 231,258 |
| Investments | 1,047,484 | 1,277,190 |
| Loans outstanding | 2,287,308 | 3,259,021 |
| Accrued interest and other charges | 23,825 | 105,731 |
| Receivable from members | 548,015 | 105,531 |
| Other assets | 56,908 | 71,158 |
| Special Reserve assets | 57,369 | 301,730 |
| Total Assets | \$4,104,428 | \$5,411,619 |

Liabilities and Capital

| | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Borrowings, less unamortised discount | \$2,892,263 | \$2,484,219 |
| Accrued interest on borrowings | 106,109 | 67,168 |
| Accounts payable and other liabilities | 21,958 | 37,973 |
| Capital | | |
| Capital Stock | | |
| Subscribed | 8,292,343 | 13,608,746 |
| Less-Callable portion | 7,437,299 | 12,358,335 |
| General Reserve | 855,044 | 1,250,411 |
| Special Reserve | 171,683 | 1,270,118 |
| Total Liabilities and Capital | \$4,104,428 | \$5,411,619 |

Summary of Income and General Reserve
for the six month periods ended June 30, 1984 and 1983
(\$000's)

| | Inter-regional | | Ordinary | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| | 1984 | 1983 | 1984 | 1983 |
| Total Income | \$173,547 | \$146,318 | \$216,536 | \$193,964 |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Borrowing expenses | 135,463 | 119,671 | 108,179 | 81,056 |
| Administrative expenses | 13,537 | 13,138 | 17,609 | 16,224 |
| Total Expenses | 149,000 | 132,809 | 125,788 | 97,280 |
| Net Income | 24,547 | 13,509 | 90,748 | 96,704 |
| Allocation to Special Reserve | (6,137) | (3,377) | (13,899) | (15,686) |
| Addition to General Reserve | 18,410 | 10,132 | 74,849 | 81,018 |
| General Reserve beginning of period | 133,344 | 120,044 | 1,201,409 | 1,063,993 |
| Translation adjustments | (69) | 93 | (6,140) | (9,046) |
| General Reserve end of period | \$171,685 | \$140,269 | \$1,270,118 | \$1,135,965 |

The information relating to the Bank is qualified and further explained by the detailed information published on behalf of the Bank in the Bank Card relating to the Bank dated December 10, 1984 which is available in the Bank Statistical Services System and copies of which may be obtained from:

Baring Brothers & Co., Limited,
8 Bishopsgate,
London EC2N 4AE.
Cazenove & Co.,
12 Tokenhouse Yard,
London EC2R 7AN.
W. Greenwell & Co.,
New Bells House,
Broad Street,
London EC4M 9EL.
Rowe & Pitman,
1 Finsbury Avenue,
London EC2M 2PA.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Bank has agreed to pay to the Managers an amount aggregating £1.25 per £100 nominal amount of Stock in connection with their services as managers and underwriters of the issue, out of which will be paid by the Managers, on behalf of and as agents for the Bank, commissions to the brokers to the issue in respect of their services to the Bank in connection with the issue and to certain other persons who have agreed with the Bank to accept underwriting participations in respect of the issue of the Stock. The Bank will also pay brokerage of one eighth of one per cent. of the nominal amount of Stock issued pursuant to subscriptions received from or through recognised banks and stockbrokers on Application Forms bearing their stamp or in respect of other forms of application accepted by Baring as being from a recognised bank or stockbroker; this commission will not, however, be paid in respect of any allotments which arise out of an underwriting commitment. The total expenses of the issue (including the above-mentioned commissions and brokerage) are estimated to amount to about £1.5 million and are payable by the Bank.

Baring, on behalf of the Bank, reserves the right to reject any application and to accept any application in part only. If any application is not accepted, the amount paid on application will be returned by post at the risk of the person submitting the application and, if any application is accepted for a smaller amount of Stock than that applied for, the balance of the amount paid on application will be so returned, in each case after the relevant remittance has been cleared. Baring, on behalf of the Bank, will announce the basis of allotment by 3.00 p.m. on Thursday, December 13, 1984 and it is expected that confirmation of allotments will be despatched on the same day.

There has been no material adverse change in the financial condition of the Bank since December 31, 1983.

The Bank has obtained the approval and agreement of H.M. Government required under the Agreement Establishing the Inter-American Development Bank (as amended) in connection with the issue.

Copies of the Instrument constituting the Stock, the latest audited accounts of the Bank and the Agreement Establishing the Inter-American Development Bank (as amended) will be available for inspection at the specified office of the Registrar until redemption of the Stock, and a copy of the Purchase Agency Agreement will be so available until its expiry.

Documents for inspection

Copies of the following documents will be available for inspection at the offices of Freshfields, Grindall House, 25 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7LH during normal business hours until December 19, 1984—

- the Agreement Establishing the Inter-American Development Bank (as amended);
- the Underwriting Agreement;
- the Purchase Agency Agreement;
- a draft, subject to modification, of the Instrument constituting the Stock;
- the audited accounts of the Bank for the five years ended December 31, 1983; and
- a copy of the Journal of the Institute of Actuaries, Vol. 105, Part I, 1978, pages 15 to 26.

Principal Office of the Bank
808 17th Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20577.

Receiving Bank and Registrar
Baring Brothers & Co., Limited,

Bourne House,
34 Beckenham Road,
Beckenham,
Kent BR3 4TU.

Solicitors to the Managers
Slaughter and May,
25 Abchurch Lane,
London EC4N 3DB.

Cazenove & Co.,
12 Tokenhouse Yard,
London EC2R 7AN.

Brokers
W. Greenwell & Co.,
New Bells House,
Broad Street,
London EC4M 9EL.

Rowe & Pitman,
1 Finsbury Avenue,
London EC2M 2PA.

APPLICATION FORM
The application list will open at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, December 13, 1984 and will close later the same day. This Form must be lodged with Baring Brothers & Co., Limited, 8 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4AE. The Stock is not open for application to subscribers by U.S. persons as defined in the Newspaper Advertisement dated December 10, 1984 (the "Advertisement").

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

ISSUE ON A YIELD BASIS OF £100,000,000 LOAN STOCK 2815

Payable as follows: On application £30 per cent. and the balance of the issue price by June 19, 1985.

The Baring Brothers & Co., Limited, in accordance with the terms of the Advertisement I/we apply as below. I/we undertake to accept the amount of Stock applied for or any less amount that may be allotted in respect of this application and to pay for the same in conformity with the terms of the Advertisement.

| Nominal amount of the Stock applied for | Amount enclosed at £30 per cent. of the nominal amount applied for |
|---|--|
| £ | £ |

Note: Application must be for a minimum of £200 nominal amount of Stock and thereafter for integral multiples thereof.

I/we enclose a cheque drawn on a branch in the United Kingdom (including Northern Ireland), the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man of a bank which is either a member of the London or Scottish Clearing Houses or which has arranged for its cheques to be cleared through the facilities provided for the members of those Clearing Houses and made payable to "Baring Brothers & Co., Limited" and crossed "IADB Loan" representing payment at the rate of £30 per cent. of the above-mentioned nominal amount of Stock, in consideration of the Inter-American Development Bank (the "Bank") agreeing to allot the Stock on and subject to the terms and conditions of the Advertisement and of the Underwriting Agreement referred to therein. I/we agree that this application shall be irrevocable until December 20, 1984 and that this sentence shall constitute a collateral contract between me/us and the Bank which shall become binding upon the despatch by mail or delivery of this Form duly completed to Baring Brothers & Co., Limited. I/we understand that the completion and delivery of this Form accompanied by my/our cheque constitutes a representation that my/our cheque will be honoured on first presentation. I/we hereby engage to pay the balance payable on the Stock by 12 noon on June 19, 1985 on any allotment made to me/us in respect of this application. I/we understand that failure to pay such balance by the due date will render the amount previously paid liable to forfeiture and the allotment liable to cancellation and that interest at the rate per annum of 4 per cent. above the Base Rate for the time being of Baring Brothers & Co., Limited may be charged on such balance if accepted after its due date and that the Bank may, without prejudice to any other rights, in default of payment sell the Stock fully paid for its own account. Baring Brothers & Co., Limited, on behalf of the Bank, reserves the right to reject any application and to accept any application in part only.

I/we hereby represent that I am not/one of us is a U.S. person (as defined in the Advertisement). I/we hereby request that any allotment of Stock to me/us be evidenced by an allotment letter addressed to me/us and sent by first class post at my/our risk to me/us at the first address shown below. I/we acknowledge that any allotment letter and (if appropriate) any cheque for any application money returnable to me/us is liable to be held pending clearance of such payment.

Dated 1984.

(1) Usual signature:
In the case of a corporation, the Common Seal must be affixed or this Form signed by a duly authorised officer who must state his capacity:

For name:
Surname: (also state designation: Mr, Mrs, Miss or title)
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BT helps push indices to records

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

British Telecom stayed in the stock market limelight yesterday, the first day of the new account.

The shares helped push both the FT 30 share index and the FT-SE 100 share index to new trading highs, with the Telecom price itself touching a new peak of 97 1/2p at one stage. By the close, Telecom was just 3p higher at 95 1/2p.

Market talk suggested Middle East and US buying of the shares, but few buyers appeared to be able to deal because jobbers were short of stock.

For the second time Panmure Gordon and Co has lifted its profit forecast for Spring Ram, the bathroom and kitchen group. The stockbroker has increased its current year projection from £2.4 million to £2.8 million and suggests that next year profits will hit £3.3 million. SR's shares were unchanged at 265p.

The next few days will test the share price as letters of allotment reach shareholders and bring some sellers out of the woodwork.

Meanwhile, suggestions that the Arabs are trying to build up a stake in Telecom came as no surprise. Investors in Abu Dhabi soon got hold of a 12.5 per cent stake in Reuters this summer, within weeks of the news agency coming to market.

GEC is also fancied to be taking an interest in the shares, alongside buying back some of its own. It has 40.36 million of its own shares - slightly more than its 40 million target buy-in - and the GEC share price gained another 2p to 230p.

At the close the FT 30 share index was riding comfortably at

a new 930.9 points peak, up 7.3 points. The new three-week holiday account had opened confidently enough but then a note of uncertainty crept in and best levels were not always held.

However tax cut hopes and cheaper money expectations began to influence the market helping the traditionally buoyant Christmas account to achieve a record level despite a cluster of ex-dividend index constituents.

The FT-SE share index mirrored its most restricted but more famous rival measure, the FT-SE 100, which finished on a new high and only a few points away from the 1,200 points level at 1,197.9 points, a rise of 7.8 points on the day.

Government stocks were almost forgotten in the excitement. After milling around uncertainty for much of the day they finished more or less in line with their opening levels. The market tended to be cautious ahead of today's money supply figures.

Among leading equities Glaxo Group, Boots and Hawker Siddeley moved ahead. Distillers Co. with interim figures in this account, and National Westminster Bank were among others to move forward.

Imperial Group, the brewing to tobacco complex, climbed 3p to a new 180p peak as stories continued to enthrall the market about the sale of its troublesome American catering and hotel chain, Howard Johnson.

There is talk that once He Jo has been sold Imps will move along the takeover trail, possibly bidding for the two breweries, J.W. Cameron and Tollerache and Cobbold Breweries, presently controlled by Ellerman

Lines, the privately owned business run by the Barclay Brothers, Frederick and John.

Oils were mixed. Towards the close there was some strengthening as the market tended to concentrate on Opec's refusal to cut prices rather than the uncertainty created by the British National Oil Corporation's agonising over its own price structure.

There was the usual display of activity among the oil explorers. In favour yesterday

Mr Rex Williams, the snooker professional, will be at the Stock Exchange today for the USM launch of his company, Rex Williams Leisure. Besides "marking up" the performance of RWT shares, Mr Williams will be challenging the stock market's "snooker" to a game of pool, with the stakes donated to the Ethiopian relief fund.

was, not for the first time, Falcon Resources which advanced 25p to 195p. But Oliver Prospecting and Mining continued to lose ground. Depressed by dry well rumours it tumbled to 155p before closing at 175p, down 10p on the day.

Johnson Group Cleaners rose 3p to 441p as Nottingham Manufacturing, which is bidding 330p a share for the dry cleaning company, continued to buy in the market. It is understood that Nottingham now has more than 10 per cent of the shares.

Nottingham faces an uphill struggle in its battle for control because of the large number of Johnson employee shares which cannot be bid for unless there is a change in the articles of

association at a meeting requisitioned for Friday.

If Nottingham fails to get the change, which seems likely, it will need nearly 70 per cent of the non-employee shares to go unconditional.

Stores companies were back in favour, with a variety of influences helping share prices along. Better-than-expected retail sales figures for November and growing hopes for the complete success of the Sunday trading lobby brought some of the pennies along, but growing market optimism for Christmas and longer-term trading were probably the most important factors.

Investors have got the message that this year's seasonal trading boom is on the way, and City analysts are also suggesting that 1985 will be a year of plenty. At Capel-Cure Myers, the stockbroker, analysts forecast a retail sales growth rate of at least 4 per cent for the year, against a rate of around 3-3 1/2 per cent for 1984.

House of Fraser rose 2p to 306p. Harris Queensway gained 6p to 212p. MFI went 3p better to 228p. British Home Stores rose 5p to 261p. Burton Group picked up 5p to 383p, and there were pennies more for Habitat-Northcote, Great Universal Stores, Marks & Spencer, Ratners, Sears Holdings and W. H. Smith.

Boots went 8p better to 197p as the company announced the opening of its 100th Cookshop and a "50 per cent improvement" on sales levels at "the previous Boots houseware departments". Among the latter were the Timothy Whites shops which Boots used in early 1983. Debenhams was also a special feature in the sector, rising 8p to

218p on renewed talk of a bid for the department store chain.

Beers recorded a smattering of modest gains. Greenall Whitley dipped 1p to 147p on its year's figures but Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, reporting soon, rose 3p to 139p.

Bank shares edged ahead. First National Finance Corporation, one of the market's longest running takeover chessnuts, attracted fresh speculative support, gaining 1 1/2p to 76 1/2p.

Firstland Oil and Gas, the fledgling 163 company launched in July with the rights to prospect for oil on the Falklands, is turning its attention to the North Sea. It is making a tender offer to buy 82,500 shares (26.4 per cent) at up to 63p in Fishermens Petroleum which owns 3 per cent of block 12/29 and is presently capitalized at £200,000. The deal would take Firstland's stake up to 29 per cent.

Insurance stocks - composite and life - recorded modest gains but insurance brokers, under the lead of Hogg Robinson which produced very much as expected profits, were subdued. Dabblers, makers of electronic components jumped 21p to 195p after it registered a sharp profits advance - from £3.2 million to £3.5 million. Year's dividend is 2.4p a share against 2p. The company says it has made a good start to the present year.

Among USM stocks, Pineapple Dance rose 5p to 53p, lifting off the low levels reached last week. But it is a thin market in shares and it does not take much to move the price either way.

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11th December, 1984

Jacob Rothschild, the merchant banker, talks to
Graham Searjeant about the City's revolution

Pioneer turned prophet who sounds a note of caution

Every revolution seems to need an element of leadership from a farsighted rebel within the old establishment, all the way from Lafayette to Chou-en-lai. The City's revolution is no different. The man called to this role, surprisingly but quite logically, was Jacob Rothschild, scion of the formally senior but financially junior English arm of the legendary Rothschild family.

Jacob Rothschild, clearly the most dynamic Rothschild of his generation, was painfully divorced from the family bank of N. M. Rothschild in 1980. That was, no doubt, partly due to clashes of personality, but primarily due to Mr Jacob's dissatisfaction with the professional merchant banking niche occupied by the family bank among others within the guild system of restrictive practices that dominated the City village. He favoured the more buccannering approach of his ancestors, seeing the merchant bank primarily as a body of capital to be mobilized flexibly to take maximum advantage of whatever financial opportunities presented themselves.

Since the break, which left Jacob Rothschild with only the renamed Rothschild Investment Trust as a vehicle for his ambitions, he has built up by far the largest merchant banking group in Britain. This was achieved through a merger with a larger investment trust, buying a half share in a leading Wall Street firm and a stake in London stockbrokers Kitchin & Aitken. Then a merger with the

Charterhouse group to form Charterhouse J. Rothschild brought him back to the elite ranks of London accepting houses.

But Mr Rothschild gave a lead in word as well as deed. "I made a speech saying, fairly forcefully, that more strongly capitalized and competitive vehicles should emerge in the City of London," he concedes with an air almost of embarrassment. "I believe that to be true."

That required the changes in the City's structure that were symbolized by the agreement between the Stock Exchange and the City to phase out fixed brokerage commissions by the end of 1986 and consequently to allow outside ownership of securities firms and break down the functional barriers within the exchange.

"In the early seventies, financial services were overfragmented in this country. Merchant banks such as Warburgs participated in eurobond issues and distributed the securities. But they were debarred from distributing shares in their own domestic market, from using the skills they had acquired in these international markets."

The rapid development of electronic telecommunications, which makes it feasible to deal in markets all round the world for 24 hours a day, has also put a premium on firms developing a flexible international structure.

"We are now living in a world where opportunities occur 24 hours a day, so one is forced to be competitive and on one's toes for 24 hours a day and to be structured accordingly. I think it is important to be international. The United States is the biggest capital market in the world and the Far East probably has the fastest growing economies. There are question marks inevitably about the competitiveness of Europe compared to the United States. So there will be many opportunities for those with an international approach that are denied to those with a purely domestic approach. It is important, I don't think it is easy. But there must be some concerns who accept the challenge of trying to take up opportunities that are not restricted to the United Kingdom."

The changes in technology have also changed the nature of international money markets, requiring, in Mr Rothschild's view, larger firms to operate effectively.

"Markets have become bigger as they have become global. As merchant bankers, we used to sweat over raising a \$25 million loan. Now some of the best customers expect to raise \$1 billion without a lot of fuss. In an era of global markets, you require big capital and overheads."

"Look what has happened on the Continent," he warns. "Elite banks became irrelevant and were sold to the big banks. The small fry were effectively eliminated. In the United States, since May Day (when fixed commission were



In a speech in the City shortly afterwards, Mr Rothschild confessed that the management challenge of handling such a business was formidable. He admitted that it was "ludicrous" to suggest that CJR had anywhere near integrated its portfolio of investments in financial services companies, he doubted that any genuinely integrated financial service group would emerge in Britain in the next two years and dismissed his own attempt as "an interesting case study".

In a report to shareholders, he warned that "the breaking down of barriers between different types of institutions does not of itself weaken the case for specialized firms or add to the profitability of widely diversified businesses."

This apparent change of tack hit many in the City like a cold shower. But the impression that Mr Rothschild had pessimistically reversed his thinking is false.

'Experiments should be made and watched very carefully'

"I do not disbelieve in the fundamental philosophical good sense behind the merger of companies like CJR and Hambro, Life. I think it is perfectly possible to mix retail and wholesale financial services businesses. In this country we have no retail stockbroker but in the United States Merrill Lynch, E. F. Hutton and others have large sales forces."

"Due to the fiscal and regulatory system that has grown up here, it was impossible *de facto* to sell shares through a sales force, yet by a quick you could sell unit-linked life assurance that way. Now you have a government here that is anxious, as we have seen in the British Telecom issue, to encourage distribution to the small investor. If a life insurance company bought a stockbroker and chose to make a proportion of its sales force stockbrokers, it could change. In the United States, firms like American Express have developed just that kind of retail/wholesale mix."

"Any great clearing bank is, in a sense, a financial supermarket. They may have problems, but they are successful concerns that are now enlarging the sphere of activity they cover. Barclays Bank has a life assurance company, unit trusts, is becoming a significant jobber, and acquiring a significant broker. So it is a universal bank."

"I am convinced it is right that these experiments should be made - and watched very carefully by the regulatory authorities. But it will be extremely difficult to marry the cultures of different financial service backgrounds, whether retail and wholesale, banker and broker or stockbroker and jobber or even within the same sector. It has to be done with great sensitivity and patience. If we all talk openly about the difficulties, they may be easier to solve."

"One should not underestimate those cultural differences. There will be mishaps. We have just had a well-advertized difference of culture between Trade Development Bank and American Express for instance. A firm must develop its own character and that may take years to achieve."

"So it is legitimate to distinguish between what one thinks is right for the market place and what may be right for one's own business. If there is a conflict between what one would like to paint as a picture but is hard to achieve, then one must remember one's first duty is to one's stockholders and not to a philosophy. People are not investing in a philosophy."

Mr Rothschild accepts that the delay in the Stock Exchange's main changes on ownership and function, probably to the end of 1986, could cause additional problems, more for groups where mergers with Stock Exchange firms are central to strategy than to groups like CJR, or on another plane the clearing banks, with a relatively small involvement.

"It is a long time to wait and it must be uncomfortable for those involved that broking firms have in effect been sold forward". It could well change the economics of choosing to build up from a small stock-broking base, like the merchant bankers Schroders, or buying an established firm.

"The price of that short-cut, on the norms of valuation now established, is higher than would ever be acceptable in New York. It would make us rather nervous, especially when you cannot complete that acquisition and you do not know what effect our equivalent of May Day will have on those firms' profit and loss accounts." On the other hand the so-called marzipan generation, of brokers just below the partners who have sold out, may be resentful and listen to the siren calls of attractive remuneration packages.

"Mobility will become that much greater here and security will become less, following the American pattern."

When the dust settles, Jacob Rothschild sees his own firm developing into a catalyst in the international financial services industry, "the place in the City of London where people will turn if they have an investment opportunity that requires significant capital and needs to be looked at by people who are used to taking those kind of risks".

Other City-based groups he sees being more committed to developing particular lines of business and specialties, while financial supermarkets, eventually complete with high street money shops, are more likely to develop initially from the big retail financial groups.

"The important thing is that you should have within the market place firms of different shapes and sizes - firms whose quality may be general strength or excellence in a narrow area. Provided you also have the ingredients of sufficient capital and intelligent people, you will have a good market place, a good City of London and one that will be competitive with New York or Tokyo."

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Norcros drops 17p as poor results displease the market

The market was not pleased with the feeble festive offering served up for it yesterday by Norcros. Interim pretax profits at £14.1 million were barely up on last year and well below even the most conservative estimates. The share price shed 17p to 165p as good cheer took a back seat.

There had been little indication that the figures would be so miserable and perhaps the only consolation is that the problem areas have been clearly identified and action taken to remedy the causes. However, the effect will carry over in to the second half and it will be 1985/86 before Norcros can clean its sheet.

The difficulties came in the engineering and construction divisions. Four companies, A B Cranes, Butler Engineering, Lion Foundry and Criall Construction, conspired to produce losses of about £3 million.

The first two companies are to be merged. Lion Foundry has been closed and there has been substantial rationalization at Criall. The cost of these moves will amount to about £4 million in the full year.

These problems and the subsequent share price reaction cannot have helped the Norcros argument that it still intends to increase its 36.3 per cent holding in UBM into a controlling interest.

The stake is the legacy of a failed takeover bid last year. Norcros is free to bid again for UBM but the weakness in its price linked with the strength of UBM would make it an expensive deal to finance.

The Norcros management has still not formulated any idea about what it will do with the UBM stake. So far, dividend payments are almost covering interest costs but the position is far from satisfactory and at some point the board must face up to the question.

With the prospect of another difficult second half in store, the shares at 165p look fully valued.

Greenall Whitley

Greenall Whitley, the Warrington-based brewer, founded more than 200 years ago, is making a brave effort to catch up with the rest of the brewing sector. In the past year or so the group has diversified strongly, purchasing De Vere Hotels (around £33 million), four operators, Arrowsmith (£4

million); and Treadway Inns in the USA (2.4 million). Other purchases include the Cellar Five Off-licence chain and the Symonds Cider business.

Gearing is now around 30 per cent, or nearly 40 per cent without adjusting for last year's £45 million property revaluation. The annualized interest charge is now probably about £7 million.

In other words, there is a quality of sameness about the Greenall identity which links it with other UK brewers who have followed a similar process of diversification.

Sadly, however, the group is spending money just at the time when the whole concept of brewers' diversification is coming under increasing criticism, witness notably the analysts' apprehension about present trends at Grand Metropolitan.

In addition, the quality of Greenall's earnings following the high spending on acquisitions, still does not seem particularly high. Stripping out, for example, the group's £2 million (£1.2 million) surplus on property sales, and adjusting for the first time £1.2 million contribution from De Vere hotels, trims the growth rate considerably from the stated 18 per cent.

Losses on the tour operating side have been reduced from £1.1 million to £200,000, but this is a far cry from the break-even position apparently forecast to the City. Analysts were also disappointed by the 23 per cent organic growth in hotel profits, before adding back De Vere's contribution.

On wines, spirits and soft drinks, the group states that sales volumes were flat, with reductions in volume throughout the Greenall chain of pubs.

But perhaps the trickiest proposition faced by Greenall is on the traditional brewing side. Despite an improvement in beer profits of nearly 6 per cent, volumes fell by nearly 1 per cent, mainly because summer sales underperformed. The volume outcome compares with Bass's gain of perhaps 5-6 per cent.

Hence the analysts cavil at the timing of Greenall's spending programme. Not only has it coincided with a possible peak in consumers' expenditure, but the flaws in the original brewers' diversification strategy are now being unveiled, as Bass consolidates its position as the UK's largest brewer.

TEMPUS

Profits this year may total £31 million, leaving the group selling on a target p/e of 8.5 at 147. This is roughly the prospective multiple for Bass. On balance, Bass looks the more attractive investment.

Hogg Robinson

Hogg Robinson, the travel, insurance broking and shipping group, was sounding understandably optimistic after announcing its interim results yesterday.

The group's pretax profits for the six months to September 30 grew by more than £1 million, from £3.4 million to £4.4 million. This compares with a profit increase of only £500,000 over the whole of last year.

But the market was less impressed, marking HR shares down 4p to 214p. This was mainly because of uncertainty about what kind of company HR is the results show that it is as much a travel company as an insurance broker.

Broking activities went well, increasing profits by £400,000 to £2.7 million. Last year HR failed to raise its broking profits at all. The reorganization of the division is complete, but the cost of this is shown in the jump in non-recurring central costs from £600,000 to £1 million.

Broking also benefited from bigger-than-expected premium rate increases on recent renewals of business. This is further encouraging evidence that prospects in the insurance broking sector are at last improving.

HR's debt position has also improved as proceeds from the £8 million sale of its headquarters last year were used to reduce the amount borrowed to finance acquisitions. Interest payable on financing acquisitions fell from £818,000 to £587,000.

But perhaps the most interesting part of the figures are the travel and transport results. From a small proportion of profits only a year ago, HR's travel agencies have now contributed more to pretax profits than any other division.

The interim result bounded ahead from £2.1 million last time to £3.4 million this year. The figure includes Wakefield Fortunate, the travel company bought last year. For the first time, Travel is likely to become an

even larger proportion of the business once HR has divested itself of its insurance underwriting activities. In the meantime, the company believes it has the largest market share of business travel and aims to increase its 5 per cent share of the retail market.

The interim dividend is being increased 15 per cent to 3.8p. Earnings per share have risen from 3.66p to 4.29p. Brokers are revising their full-year profits estimates upwards to around £14 million on the strength of the results.

Baker Perkins

Baker Perkins at last seem set to buck the profits trend of peaks followed by troughs which has dogged it over the last five years. Hopes of sustained profits growth generated one year have consistently been dashed the next. However, for the first time since 1979 the group is now likely to report two successive years of profits improvement.

Yesterday's interim pretax profits of £4.9 million were more than 200 per cent up and confirmed that the progress recorded last year had been maintained. The driving force was once again the buoyancy of the US market.

The strength of the dollar boosted profits by around £400,000 but the benefit was countered to some extent by the problems this posed for the US-based chemical machinery manufacturing operations which found export sales hard to come by.

Losses are still to be eliminated in this area which will be achieved in part by switching some production back to the UK although the benefits will not be seen until 1985/86.

There is still also some loss elimination benefit to come from the industrial bakeries activities. However, Baker Perkins most pressing problem will be to reverse the drift of sales away from the UK.

Domestic sales now account for only 15 per cent of turnover, against 20 per cent last year. This could be changed only by diversification through acquisition, although the balance sheet is strong enough to cope with such a move.

The shares closed up 10p to 173p where they look more solid than they have of late.



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£100m boost for Bulldog bond market

By Michael Prest

Further impetus will be given to the revival of the Bulldog bond market by the offer this week of £100 million in loan stock by the Inter-American Development Bank. It is the first long-dated sterling bond since British Telecom.

Japanese to reduce videotape recorder exports to Europe

From David Watts, Tokyo

The Japanese have agreed to reduce the number of videotape recorders exported to the EEC next year by 1.7 million units. The agreement was announced in Tokyo at the conclusion of a drawn-out series of bargaining sessions during which the EEC was represented by Mr Laurens Jan Brinkhorst. The new total will be 2.25 million units, as against 3.95 million-sets this year.

Norton 'still seeks new Waddington'

By Jeremy Warner

Norton Opax, the Harrogate security and specialist printing group, is still searching for a "John Waddington-like" acquisition to help place it among the big league of printing companies. Mr Richard Hanwell, its chief executive said yesterday.

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Nigeria plans to export gas

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Law Report December 11 1984

Delay in taxation of costs

In re Chapman deceased. Chapman v Chapman. Before Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor. [Judgment delivered December 4]

In reviewing the taxation of a plaintiff's costs in consolidated actions in the Chancery Division against former trustees of her husband's estate (assessed by a taxing master at a nominal sum under Order 62, rule 7(5) of the Rules of the Supreme Court because of delays in lodging a composite bill of costs), Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor, expressed the hope that in the current revision of the rules under Order 62 (which dealt wholly with the costs of proceedings), consideration might be given to several questions under rule 7(5) and to the exercise of taxing officers' powers which could help to relieve practitioners from some of the "invariable repugnance" with which they now approached Order 62.

Process plant ignored in factory rates valuation

Edmondson v Teesside Textiles Ltd. Before Lord Justice Ackner, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice May. [Judgment delivered December 6]

On its true construction, section 21(1)(b) of the General Rate Act 1967 required, for the purposes of rating valuation, process plant and machinery remaining on unused factory premises to be treated as if it were not there, whether the actual effect of its presence in the hereditament was to enhance or to depreciate that theoretical rent which was to be estimated in ascertaining the rateable value, pursuant to section 19(3) of the Act.

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Legal problem industry faces

Why some will never get with IT

By Frank Brown

Companies lagging in the use of information technology are six times more likely to have a poor financial performance than leading users of IT, according to a report sponsored by the Department of Trade and Industry and the Institute of Administrative Management.

Stressing the strong link between financial performance and wise use of IT, the report says the gap between leading and lagging firms is getting wider and the laggards are unlikely to catch up quickly because they lack the necessary management disciplines and procedures.

"The greatest barrier to the further use of IT in industry and commerce is management itself," the report says. "The main need is to gain the interest and commitment of management to make use of IT within the business."

The report, *The Barriers and Opportunities of Information Technology - a Management Perspective* reviews a survey carried out by the management consultants A. T. Kearney on

the adoption of IT by commerce and industry in the UK.

The report says a "disturbing" percentage of companies in each sector do not see IT as making any contribution to business performance.

Few companies have taken full advantage of IT and most fail to treat it as a normal investment. Most regard IT as providing a service for middle management.

The report reveals that few companies are aware of what their competitors are doing in IT. As these pose the threat of increased competition, they should be monitored in the same way as new products, enabling them to avoid competitor's pitfalls.

The report also advocates that senior management should have firm control of IT investment, a factor cited by the report as a characteristic of all the leading IT companies. Leaving IT strategy decisions to data professionals can be a mistake because DP people have not been trained to identify or exploit the business opportunities available.

British industrial management is in crisis as it attempts to develop a new style to respond to the nuances of high technology. The employees in this sector, principally in Information Technology, whether they be engineers, technicians, computer programmers or even secretaries, require continuous training/education and are now acquiring the status of assets.

The entrepreneurs who have started small electronic-based companies in the last decade have already developed their style of management to cater for the change. They have been aware of the transition because most of them have been based on the skills of a few talented engineers or programmers.

But the older industries which have been forced into the electronics era and whose survival will depend on their successfully grasping the technology, have not got the message.

Last week two formulae were being considered to help the ignorant industrialists in the IT sector to respond to its needs. The most crucial requirement is training and education of personnel.

A levy on all manufacturers and service firms in the high technology sector to set up a training pool or a fee paid to an employer if one of his trainees resigns prematurely are two options being canvassed in Government corridors as methods of encouraging investment in industrial education.

The proposals have been discussed with the House of Lords Committee on Science and Technology, headed by Lord Gregson, which will publish its report next year on "Education

and Training for New Technologies".

The levy and the transfer fee - which would be paid either by the departing employee or the new employer or the new employer - are both laughable suggestions which are monuments only to British management's reluctance to modernise its view on labour. The highly skilled and professional personnel now required in the high technology sector, and the substantial training required even at the most modest level, questions previous management assessments of labour.

Manufacturers claim to be reluctant to invest in training because they may lose personnel to competitors. There is, as a consequence, a critical shortage of skills in the British IT industry. A report published last week - this time by the Management Services Commission - reminded British industry of the scale of that shortage.

The report outlined key points for immediate action:

- Effective mechanism for local collaboration between education, training and employers
- Adult training
- Technician training
- Youth training

The Butcher Committee reported

on the skills shortage in July. The 16-man committee called for partnerships between industry and the higher education establishment to "enable changing national skill requirements

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone

Technology Correspondent

to be met in a more relevant, flexible and cost effective way."

While such partnerships may prove to be the vehicle to assist in reducing the skills shortage, the primary problem is that British management doesn't recognize that it must invest.

Much has been written about the Japanese and their style of management. The lifetime employment commitment has allowed them to invest in personnel without fear of losing them to competitors. Consequently their success in the IT sector is unrivalled and the more successful American and European IT companies have been adopting the policy recently.

According to Mr Ryuzaburo Kaku, President of Canon, who has studied

How to put the bar on overcharging

British management must give this transfer fee nonsense the boot



Ryuzaburo Kaku says his father moved too much.

the European and the American styles of management: "Lifetime employment itself is not the kind of system which Japan has been operating for a long time. Actually my father went from one company to another and that was common practice in Japan: he was middle-aged when this lifetime employment started."

It paid the company to have lifetime employment when you consider the cost of education and so forth. The people who stayed with the company had more reward than those who moved around. My father was the moving type and did not have much reward."

The book *The Art of Japanese Management* applications for American Executives, written by Pascale and Athos, highlights how the Japanese view of employment is reflected in the work patterns when it is stated: "The Japanese see themselves as far more interdependent. Thus they are prepared to make far greater investment in people and in skills necessary to be effective with others."

The study contrasts that style with that of the American executives - a style also crudely emulated by many European managers.

A major change in attitude is needed. The proponents of the levy

scheme for the IT industry and the transfer fee should start again. Neither is practical.

The responsibility for training is that of British management. Assistance from a government agency would not go amiss. That undoubtedly should come from the Inland Revenue in the form of tax allowances. Maybe then, even cautious British management might respond positively.

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Is Compunet just a newspaper or an information service?

By Geoff Wheelwright

Commodore's pioneering involvement with the Compunet computer information service is proving to be perhaps a wider frontier than the company had expected. Interesting legal and technical questions are being posed by the system.

The legal point is straightforward. Compunet (in which Commodore has a large share, although it does not own the company outright) believes that it is not responsible for legal problems arising from any information placed in the Compunet information system by Compunet subscribers.

Compunet's view on this is contained in a clause in the

Commodore Compunet conditions of registration and use, which state that "the subscriber may not upload or permit to be uploaded any material which is offensive, defamatory, obscene or of an illegal nature and the subscriber takes full responsibility for any claims or criminal charges which may result from any such material being uploaded under the subscriber's user number and the subscriber shall indemnify Compunet against all costs, charges, claims, demands or other liabilities resulting from any such claims or criminal charge."

But systems such as Compunet have in the past been considered in the business of publishing electronic newspapers or magazines - and as such under the control of all the regular publishing laws, which hold the publisher responsible for any and all material appearing in his published work. A landmark case of this type is being heard in the US, where a bulletin board (a type of home-brewed electronic information service) operator is being prosecuted because someone publicised the number of a stolen credit card on his bulletin board.

According to Compunet, however, it is no more responsible for what appears in the subscriber-contribution sections than British Telecom is for what is said over its phone lines.

The technical problems are simple case of over-zealousness in trying to provide software protection. Software can be downloaded over the Compunet system (transferred over the phone line into the memory, and then the disc drive or cassette player) using the Commodore modem - but it takes quite a time to do so, and the software is downloaded in such a way that it can be used later only if the modem is plugged into the computer.

This protection scheme would be fine were it not for the fact that the modem steals up to nine kilobytes of the 64's memory when it is plugged in, meaning that some serious applications programs which need that extra memory just will not be able to be downloaded using Compunet, unless changes are made to the system.

IBM's new Italian job

By Kevan Pearson

IBM is setting up a major computer facility in Rome for academics interested in scientific and engineering applications.

Its Rome Scientific Centre will house 10 powerful computers available free to outside researchers for experimental work in computation, intensive science and engineering research. It will become operational early next year.

It will be connected to the European Academic Research Network (EARN) and is linked to a similar network called Binet in the US.

Use of the Rome centre will be controlled by a joint board staffed by IBM and the universities in Earn. It will accommodate 15 visiting on-site researchers, in addition to those using it through Earn.

It will house 10 processors, including two IBM mid-range mainframes and eight special-purpose high-speed arithmetic processors made by the US company Floating Point Systems. It will have a permanent staff of scientists, service engineers and administrators to help researchers.

IBM will monitor how the centre is used and how different applications work.

Computer till keeps an eye on the optics

By Alan Lewis

A new computer system could help to end any doubts a customer may have about being overcharged in a crowded pub because the bill for each transaction, as well as the correct change, is displayed on a VDU for both customer and staff.

The Data-Till system uses microprocessor control and a new type of data highway to connect sensors from all the beverage dispensing points to

the till. As drinks are dispensed, they are automatically identified and priced.

The data highway, a nine-ribbon cable, is connected from the till to small sensor boxes sited at each dispensing point - optics, beer lines, hand pumps and bottle shelves. In this way nearly all bar operations are automatically monitored. Other items served such as cigarettes can be entered by using a menu screen display without the need to memorize any codes.

The system can also deal with

cocktails. Recipes are held in memory and the proportion of each constituent used is recorded whenever the particular drink is served. Each time a drink is dispensed, the stock records are depleted and the cash record increased so that total cash or stock can be displayed.

Up to four people can use the same till, each identified by their own number.

The system also monitors its own operations, including failures and optic faults. All events

are logged with the time of occurrence.

Snooker table operations can also be monitored. Sensors located in the light switches can tell when the lights are on or off and charges are automatically computed.

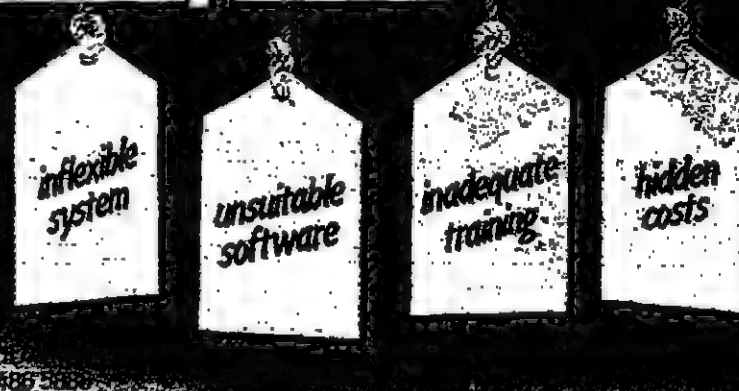
Data-Till has been launched by InfoCare, a Sussex-based company. A complete bar management system costs about £3,000 and the company claims that it could pay for itself within six to eight months through elimination of bar losses.

Will there be strings attached to your computer?

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safeguards, the rigour and security of test procedures and the security of program change procedures. Therefore, a sensibly strong technical background is required. Initially the position will concentrate on systems already developed at our client's London headquarters, but at a later date there will certainly be international travel. This is an ideal opportunity for someone to set up an important function within our client's systems environment, and will present not only a significant challenge, but considerable job satisfaction. Please send a curriculum vitae to: John Goldsmith or phone him at the number below.

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Professor Feigenbaum - a founding father of artificial intelligence - writing on the "Fifth Generation"

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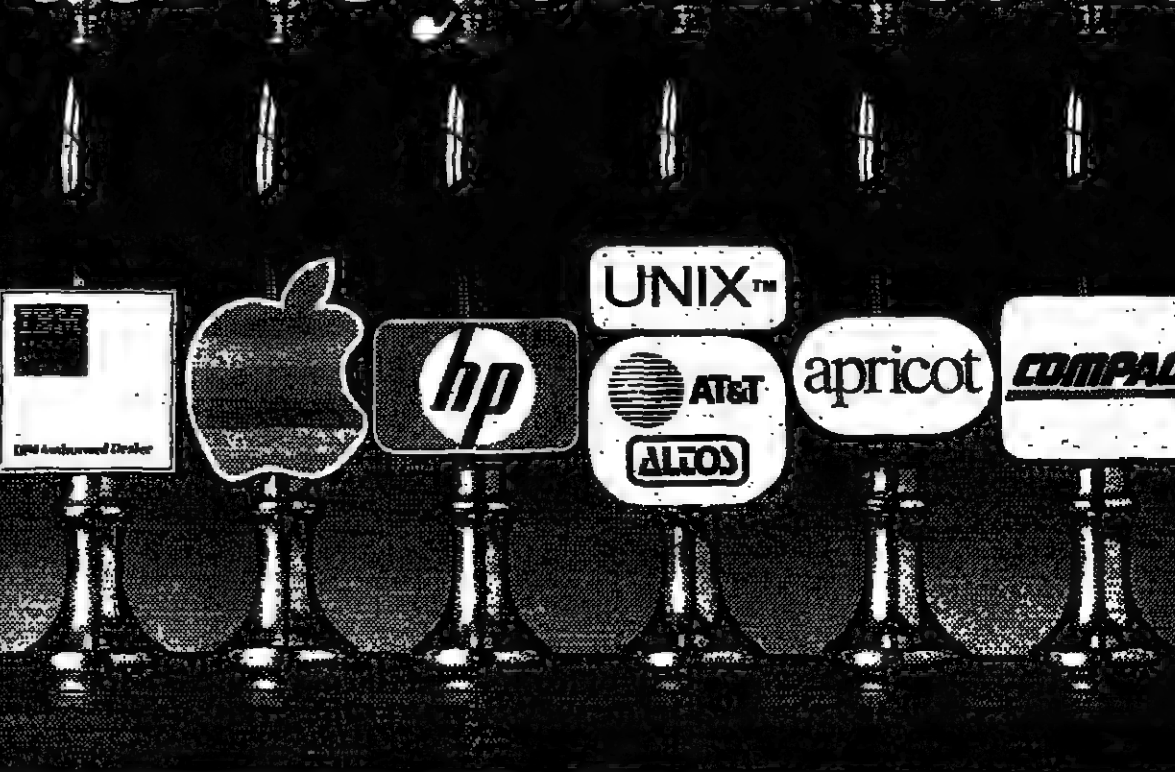
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COMPUTER HORIZONS

'Stop the poaching, start training'

Britain's leading electronics companies maintain that until more skilled staff are available, information technology is unlikely to alleviate mass unemployment.

They have been taking part in 'The National Manpower Survey of the British Electronics and Allied Industries', a survey of 905 UK electronics companies designed to give a balanced view for unions and employers alike.

It concludes that the only way for Britain to avoid becoming a poor supplier of low-value components is in re-training to produce highly-skilled people. 'Britain must invest in its brightest people now', is the call.

On the surface the short-term prospects look good, say researchers. 'Employment in the

JOB SCENE

By Paul Walton

British electronics industry over the next 12 months is expected to rise by 3 per cent, which represents a net gain to the country of 10,500 jobs.

But after 1985, or before in some black spots, employment prospects are no better in computing than elsewhere. The survey states that on balance IT will make no 'major contribution to job creation', that jobs being created in small and medium-sized firms just soak up those lost from larger companies shedding labour.

It is now obvious, the researchers say, that computing has become a regional business for smaller firms employing between 100 and 500 people - good news for some, notably in the south, west and in Scotland, but bad news for most. Ultimately, the growth of computing and the computer industries, especially software production, will falter if new staff cannot be coaxed from other dying industries or, perhaps, from the other side of the country.

Scotland and the Midlands polled top for the highest standards of labour, but in a more general category, taking into account important emotional factors like where the boss wanted to live, the West and Wales came out on top.

Those less tangible features of the workforce - besides its skill - supposed to contribute to the success of Silicon Valley are slow in coming. Pride in the firm and its products, eagerness to be at work, readiness to contribute new ideas, acceptance of difficulties, and an eagerness to succeed.

The skilled professional will always get a job and it is now more likely to be in a non-unionised small firm in Scotland or Wales. But they are in a minority - only a fifth of the firm's questioned said that they could find the staff they need - and only a tiny fraction have the right 'attitudes'.

Technopolis—that is Japanese for industrial utopia

From Simon Scott Plummer, Tokyo

In an attempt to reduce overcrowding in its great cities and promote high-tech industries, Japan has launched one of its most ambitious regional development plans since the war around the concept of the 'technopolis'.

Taking its name from 'techno' and the Greek word for city, the technopolises consist of factories, universities, and research institutes, and housing for the people who work in them. Each is near a 'mother city' with 200,000 or more inhabitants and good transport links. However, all are outside Tokyo/Yokohama, Osaka/Kobe, and Nagoya, which, though accounting for only 5.5 per cent of Japan's land area, contain a third of its population.

So far The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) has authorised 14 prefectures (counties) to go ahead with the construction of technopolises, from Hakodate in the northern island of Hokkaido to Kokubu-Hayato on the southern tip of Kyushu. It expects to give the go-ahead to another five prefectures at the end of this year or in 1985. Meanwhile, a further seven or eight are preparing technopolis plans to submit to MITI.

Japan embarked on its first post-war regional development plan in the early 1960s with the construction of heavy industries such as iron and steel, oil refining and petrochemicals in coastal areas. Though not entirely successful, it helped the country to achieve an annual growth rate of 10 per cent in the ensuing decade.

The technopolis project, that plans successor, is being implemented at a time when such traditional industries are in decline and economic growth has been halved. It is based on the conviction that high-tech industries such as microelectronics and biotechnology hold the key to future growth, and that these are best sited away from the main urban areas.

Outward move

While the population of Tokyo, the seat of government, and of most of the best universities, is still increasing, Osaka and Nagoya are losing people to rural areas, because of the high cost of housing and the inconvenience of commuting in the great conurbations. It is also because high-tech companies are building factories in the country, where the land is cheaper, the air and water cleaner, and the quality of skilled labour higher than in the big cities.

Another important factor in the move outwards is the relatively low cost of transporting small, high-value goods such as semiconductors. Whereas heavy industries wanted to be near their customers to cut freight charges, their successors can fly their products to the market without greatly affecting their bank balance.

The creation of technopolises is designed to accelerate this

centrifugal tendency. MITI has overall responsibility for the project but detailed planning and implementation is left to the prefectures. The Ministry of Construction is spending about 70 billion yen (about £235m) a year on roads in the technopolis areas and MITI gives a modest annual subsidy of 1.5 billion yen. This enables the prefectural governments to offer low interest loans to firms which want to build a factory locally, and helps to fund R and D carried out jointly by research institutes, laboratories and private companies.

Other incentives offered by the central government to high-tech industries are a 30 per cent depreciation allowance for the first year of investment, and loans at 7.3 per cent interest from the Japan Development Bank and the Hokkaido-Toboku Development Corporation. The prefectures provide the infrastructure for the new industrial zones but the incoming company is expected to buy the land and build its own factory.

Though many are still in an embryonic stage, the technopolises as a whole are creating industrial jobs at the rate of 2.5 per cent a year, higher than elsewhere in Japan.

Young people

LSI (large-scale integration) microchips, microelectronics and new material industries have so far accounted for the main share of investment in the technopolises. Thanks to facilities built by NEC and Mitsubishi Electric, Kumamoto prefecture in Kyushu alone turns out about 12 per cent of the national production of microchips.

Development patterns vary between regions. In Kyushu, Oita's technopolis covers about 30 per cent of the prefecture, the idea being that new factories should be dotted over a large area near their workforce rather than concentrated in an industrial park. Texas Instruments, which makes microchips there, employs mostly the wives of local farmers.

By contrast, Niigata is focusing attention on Nagasaki, and, though it will create a technopolis within the present city, other prefectures are building new industrial towns from scratch. In Hokkaido it is the municipality of Hakodate, rather than the prefecture, which is responsible for the technopolis.

It is too early to say whether the technopolises will initiate a significant redistribution of population in Japan, but already the increasing number of young people who return to their native prefecture after graduating from university has been dubbed the 'U-turn gensho (phenomenon)'. If they succeed, the new industrial zones will hasten this trend and thereby reduce the disparity in income between the centre and the peripheral regions of Hokkaido, Kyushu and the northernmost part of Honshu.

TV game is a winner

By Frank Brown

This Christmas could be a boom time for home computers, but for computer games companies the picture is different. Several will go to the wall, even though sales of games are likely to exceed £20m over the few months before and after Christmas.

Only about one in 500 games makes the grade. Good ones are expensive to produce and must sell in large quantities to make money. Add to that the problems of piracy, and the fact that 70 per cent of all games sales take place between September and January, it is small wonder that producing and selling computer games is a cut-throat business.

This is vividly depicted in this week's *Commercial Breaks* programme on BBC 2 on Thursday at 8.00 pm. The half-hour documentary, produced by Paul Andersen, chronicles the progress of two companies Imagine and Ocean from the end of the Christmas sales period last year in their quest to produce games they hope will hit the jackpot this Christmas.

The *Commercial Breaks* series, is intended to give viewers an idea of what goes on behind the scenes in various industries, and is aptly named in that it has had a number of lucky commercial breaks such as being able to film Imagine as its demise is taking place.

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All's shipshape with the Lieutenant's new Mate

This is the computer that went to sea. It belongs to Lt Commander Richard Pelly, who says he needed a hobby, picked a computer and found that his NCR Decision Mate V was a good shipmate that fitted neatly into his small cabin aboard HMS Brazen in which he is Marine Engineering Officer. He found it invaluable in updating his machinery files and as a

bonus it helped him keep a check on mess bills. He says: 'I was concerned about the rolling and vibrations the computer would be subjected to. However, it not only withstood the Bay of Biscay but temperatures reaching 30°C in the Indian Ocean.' In the picture too, is Lieutenant Stuart Young, Pelly's assistant. He has taught himself Basic on the Mate's keyboard.

Professionals rush to join computer literacy course

By Edward Fennell
Businessmen baffled by the multiplicity of available computer systems are benefiting from a series of short courses organised by the City of London Polytechnic. The courses, run on both a day and evening basis, are drawing hundreds of professional people confused by information technology developments.

According to David Bailey, a lecturer in the Poly's short course unit, there is a big demand for basic familiarisation courses from the 35 to 50-year-old age group.

He says: 'Not many of the people on my courses are wildly enthusiastic about computers. Their attitude is of reluctant resignation, but they've realised that for the good of their own careers and their companies they can no longer ignore new technology. The time has come for them to become computer literate.'

Some courses last one day; others continue for six evening sessions. A number are concerned with specific skills (such as word-processing, computer fraud of types of programming) but the most popular with City professionals are 'the executive's guide to information technology' and 'computer

basics for office staff'. No previous knowledge is required or assumed and this is their chief attraction.

'Most of my short course students are too old to have received any kind of computer education at school or college and what motivates them now is fear,' says Bailey. 'They're afraid of the younger managers coming up who already know about computers.'

They are afraid of exposing their ignorance, and they're afraid of going into the High Street computer retailers because they know there's a good chance they'll be sold something they don't need. On our courses they won't be laughed at; they'll be with other people in similar predicaments; they can acquire hands-on experience as well as get some sound but basic advice about selecting a computer system.'

Because the short course unit was the college's existing computer facilities it is able to keep course fees to a minimum level - £80 for a day course and £45 for the six evening sessions.

When it comes to the business of selecting an office computer system David Bailey recognises that a one-day course will not be sufficient. 'All we can do is give them clear

guidelines and some basic issues to think about. The first thing is to establish whether it is even worthwhile installing a computer system. Often they come to us hoping to be told that they don't really need one - and in some cases that's true.'

Often though (especially four professional firms of accountants and solicitors) people attend because a decision has already been taken to computerise and the choice of system is now imminent.

'The older partners who, after all, are financing the purchase, are completely in the dark about what is involved, yet soon they will be making decisions about training, staff allocation and new office systems. Fortunately they're very bright and although they come in the door knowing nothing they learn very fast.'

Perhaps the most attractive feature of the courses is that the poly is completely neutral when it comes to discussing hardware. 'It's common knowledge now that you don't get impartial advice from dealers - the courses they run are just part of their marketing exercise. Any recommendations we give are completely objective. I think people value that enormously.'

Digital pass 'Go' at Boston

From Geoffrey Ellis, Boston

One of the crowd pullers at the giant DEC World show in Boston, which ended today, was a computer fitted with voice module, playing its way through a game of Monopoly, discussing and trying to better each move. To many, this computer was seen as almost symbolic, echoing the new image being attempted by the giant Digital Equipment Corporation.

Digital, who suffered a severe dip in profits a couple of years ago, is fighting hard for new

areas of business and a higher publicity profile.

A large part of Digital business is in Europe, where 27 per cent of the company's 5.6 billion dollar revenue is gained, and it has been used as a test site for the company's restructuring - corporate shorthand for a huge change in staff, with nine new country managers and a 60 per cent change in the sales force.

The advent of the new powerful VAX 8600 computer is seen as a major plank in the

company's plans for increased profitability, but this machine, with more than 65 different chips built in, took a design team of 400 more than five years to develop, arriving almost two years later than scheduled.

DEC, who have become heavily involved with CAD-CAM operations with their VAX minis and super minis, are now hedging their bets in other directions, going after the new lucrative world of office automation and networking.



First generation spreadsheet software roamed the earth during the Holocene period. Certainly much later than our friend Prochénosaurus pictured here, but sharing many common characteristics.

Spreadsheet software was adapted superbly to its time and place, but it stopped evolving. Instead it tried to deal with changing circumstances with what paleobiologists refer to as 'non survival-orientated bolt-on goodies'. This was a blind alley.

Sheer size seemed to be a virtue. For most users, 3,840 ft² of spreadsheet was evolutionary over-kill. Just like the brontosaurus. The operator's manual became dinosaur-like as well.

Elsewhere evolution took another turn, rejecting the ponderous in favour of simplicity and specialisation. This was FT.MONEYWISE. FT.MONEYWISE used the huge memory capacity of new generation technology to create an entirely new concept. To harness the computer for managers who believe that technology should work the way they work.

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also on page 34

BBC accused of close ties with a boxing cartel

By Richard Dowden

Allegations concerning a cartel in British boxing continued to flow yesterday, with accusations that the BBC has arranged to televise two fights virtually kept out of promoters' sight of television.

In Parliament Mr Tom Pendry, Labour MP for Stalybridge and Hyde, and a former boxer, has asked Mr Neil MacFarlane, the Minister for Sport, to investigate the matter. The Office of Fair Trading has asked for further information to clarify whether an agreement between four leading figures in boxing is against the public interest.

Several boxing promoters yesterday claimed that they were never able to get their boxing matches shown on BBC television.

They said the reason was that the BBC had virtually shown only fights promoted by Mr Mickey Duff and Mr Michael Barrett, two of the four men named in Sunday newspaper articles as having signed an agreement to share the bulk of profits from boxing.

"There's been something of a monopoly for between 15 and 20 years," Mr Eddie Thomas, a Welsh promoter, said.

"They've got something tied up with the BBC. All the other promoters had a meeting about

10 years ago but nothing came of it. It's time for the Government to step in."

Mr Thomas said that his lawyers were looking at a case concerning a fight between Colin Jones of Wales and Henrik Palm of Denmark for the European welterweight title in August 1982.

He had wanted to hold it in Swansea, but could not interest the BBC in televising it, and the fight had to be held in Copenhagen.

Mr Bert McCarthy, a London promoter, said that Mr Barrett and Mr Duff had enjoyed exclusive rights to the Albert Hall boxing contests and, virtually, to the BBC televising of them. "The BBC has been unwilling to deal with anyone else."

A spokesman for the BBC confirmed that there was a contract between the BBC and Mr Duff and Mr Barrett, but denied that it was exclusive. He said that many fights not promoted by Mr Duff for Mr Barrett had been screened.

He denied that the BBC was working with a cartel and said that it tried to give the public the best of sporting action.

He added: "In the jungle of sport the fight over boxing is the most fierce. Various methods are used, legitimate and illegitimate."

Justice in smart boots

Continued from page 1

But there is no doubt that the "big American", in the shape of the monstrous multinational company, is one of the elements in the anger that this disaster has generated in India. Here, in a single terrible incident, gas killing sleeping children and their parents, there seems to be the prime example of the multinational from the rich West exploiting the poor of the Third World.

Mr Bell sounded rather like the editorialists of the Soviet press who have characterized the Bhopal tragedy as an example of the way the poorer countries are treated by capitalism.

"The American businessman," he said, "is a pretty cruel, unethical customer. He is the son of a bitch. He is concerned only with profit."

Mr Bell went outside to be photographed, saw an evidently poor woman and gave her a 20-rupee note, worth about £1.60.

He told her it was a Christmas present and that she could buy clothes.

He went about his business, accompanied by a lawyer from Florida who wore a baseball cap inscribed with the word "Justice".

An American legal team is already in Bhopal. Mr Bell and his colleagues plan to go there today, and another team, including Mr Jay Gould, who successfully defended John D. Lee, is expected to arrive in India later today.

One of the lawyers already in Bhopal was reported as saying that Mr Bell "uses people".

When I conveyed this to Mr Bell, he said loftily: "When you get to 77 and have two Italian greyhounds and have read as many books as I have and have as many friends among lawyers and judges, and had as many cases as I have, you don't have to spend time justifying yourself."



Burden of grief: A coffin arriving by helicopter at a Tiendanite village, a grim-faced Kanak rebel after the Hienghene ambush and a girl lamenting her father's death at the mass funeral

Man charged after Kanak massacre

Noumea (AFP) - French officials in New Caledonia charged one man yesterday after last Wednesday's murder of 10 Kanakas (Melanesians), which allegedly followed an ambush by mixed-race islanders. Seven other people are still being hunted.

The incident, at a road-block at Hienghene on the east coast, was the worst in recent violence which started after Kanakas demanding independence challenged French plans for this Pacific territory.

The facts and his participation in this firing. Other suspects were hiding in the mountains, but were believed ready to give themselves up.

M. Gauthier said those responsible for the murders were thought to be mixed-race Melanesian-European, with the exception of one who was Melanesian.

There was a risk of reprisals against the suspects by some members of the Tiendanite tribe near Hienghene, to which last Wednesday's victims had belonged. M. Yemene Yewene,

dismantled yesterday at the east coast nickel-mining town of Thio. The French special envoy, M. Edgar Pisani, met leaders of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front which has spearheaded independence demands.

Maurice Mitiride, the man charged with murder and wounding, was arrested on Sunday night at Kone on the west coast, 25 miles from Hienghene. The prosecutor, M. Jacques Gauthier, said the accused had made "a spontaneous statement, recognizing

the facts and his participation in this firing. Other suspects were hiding in the mountains, but were believed ready to give themselves up.

M. Gauthier said those responsible for the murders were thought to be mixed-race Melanesian-European, with the exception of one who was Melanesian.

There was a risk of reprisals against the suspects by some members of the Tiendanite tribe near Hienghene, to which last Wednesday's victims had belonged. M. Yemene Yewene,

Letter from Moscow

New delights of press briefings

"We are getting a little worried about the briefings for the bourgeois press," the Soviet official confided. "If these distortions go on, we might have to stop the briefings altogether."

Kremlin briefings are something new in Moscow, and the Russians are still discovering the pitfalls. In the West the relationship between the press and those in power is a complex one. The Soviet regime is used to a much simpler relationship: the press prints Kremlin speeches in full and fervently supports whatever the current line happens to be.

The Soviet authorities are none the less gradually coming to terms with the fact that Western newspapers and television are not like their Soviet counterparts - official mouthpieces, and have to be dealt with more subtly if the Kremlin is to get its message across the world opinion in a credible and convincing way.

One sign of this was President Chernenko's recent interview with the Moscow correspondent of the *Washington Post* - the first time any recent Soviet leader had spoken directly at length to a locally based reporter.

The Politburo began during the Andropov era to issue an account of its regular weekly meetings, a practice which Mr Chernenko has continued. This is a far cry from the days when leaders such as Khrushchev used to mingle with reporters at receptions, and the official Politburo accounts tend to be anonymous, with key decisions hidden under "other matters of foreign and domestic policy", but they do throw some light on who spoke, and about what.

Above all, the new Soviet practice of holding regular briefings has raised hopes of a more sophisticated Kremlin attitude toward information policy. The Russians began to hold large-scale press conferences about two years ago, and virtuoso performances by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, and Marshal Ogarkov, the then Chief of Staff, are still remembered.

At first only written questions were accepted, but Soviet officials have now gained enough confidence to deal with questions from the floor.

In the latest development, press conferences have given way to more intimate briefings

(the same word is used in Russian) given by Mr Vladimir Lomeiko, whose long, thin face and dry, professorial manner have suddenly become the Kremlin's public persona.

Since he began to hold briefings, Mr Lomeiko has been promoted to head the Foreign Ministry Press Department, a promotion which reflects his deft and sometimes humorous handling of the Western media, as well as his personal links with Mr Gromyko (Mr Lomeiko is married to his daughter and has written a book on foreign affairs with Mr Gromyko's son, Anatoly).

The Gromyko circle and the Foreign Ministry appear to be in the ascendancy over the party's international information department, headed by Mr Leonid Zamyatin, who always used to dominate the Kremlin press conferences but is now rarely seen.

The briefings reflect new Soviet thinking on how to counteract NATO and American statements and actions. The Russians have realized that a briefing by Mr Lomeiko is likely to get them more media coverage than a bald announcement by Tass.

On the other hand, the Russians acknowledge they are still novices when it comes to public relations. Mr Lomeiko now insists on conducting his briefings in Russian only, with translation into English given reluctantly, if at all, on the grounds that Russian is "an international language".

When asked recently whether this might not give rise to misunderstandings on East-West issues, Mr Lomeiko responded testily: "Even when we did provide a translation, the Western press distorted what I said."

The recent press conference by Stalin's daughter, Svetlana, after her dramatic return to Moscow appeared to be a reversion to old-style Kremlin news management, with only a handful of reporters admitted and almost no questioning allowed.

It remains to be seen whether this heralds a return to the previous practice of excluding the Western media from the Kremlin corridors, or whether the attempt to reach a *modus vivendi* with "the bourgeois press" will continue.

Richard Owen

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen visits the Household Cavalry Regiment at Hyde Park Barracks, 11.30.

The Princess of Wales visits the Shrewsbury Multi-Skills Youth Training Scheme, Castle Court, Castle Street, Shrewsbury, 11.45, and later, Her Royal Highness, Patron of the National Rubella Council, visits the Royal National Institute for the Blind, Condoner Hall School, Condoner, 12.25.

Princess Anne, Master of the

Worshipful Company of the Farriers, attends a Court Meeting and luncheon at the Innholders' Hall, London, 10.30 and later, at the Savoy Hotel, London, 11.30.

Princess Margaret attends the premiere of the film *The Last Starfighter* at the Leicester Square Picture Palace, Leicester Square, London, 7.30.

Concert by the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which Her Royal Highness is President, 8.

The Duchess of Kent, as President, attends the Congregation of Awards at the Royal Northern

College of Music, Manchester, 5.25 and later she attends College Concert, 7.50.

New exhibitions

Work by Tim Hunkin, Stafford Art Gallery, The Green, Stafford, 10.30 to 5. Sat 10 to 4, closed from Dec 25 to Jan 2 (ends Jan 12).

Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh, special collection from the four corners of the earth, the Gallery, Finkle Street, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire; Mon to Sun 10.30 to 5 (ends Dec 24).

Last chance to see

"The Kuna Indians of Panama: their Mola Art", Llanurman Grange Art Centre, Cwmbran, Gwent, 10.5 Mon to Sat (ends Sat).

Musical

Sherborne Schools joint orchestral and choral concert, Sherborne School Hall, Sherborne, Dorset, 8.15.

Concert by Sheffield Chamber Orchestra, First Hall, Western Bank, Sheffield, 7.30.

Concert by City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Town Hall, Birmingham, 7.30.

Concert by the University Chamber Orchestra and Meeting House Choir, Gardner Centre for the Arts, University of Sussex, Brighton, 7.45.

Carols by the Northern Sinfonia, Middleborough Town Hall, 7.45.

Concert by St Brandon's School, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Carols by the Choir of Leeds Parish Church, Leeds Town Hall, 1.05.

Kent College Carol Service, Canterbury Cathedral, 7.30.

Organ recital by P. Hale, Rochester Cathedral, 4.

Norwich High School Carol Service, Norwich Cathedral, 7.

Roads

London and South-east: A12: Improvements to approaches and exits at Westway (Brixton) roundabout, Chelmsford, A22 Single lane working on London Eastbourne road at East Heathly village, M3: All three southbound lanes closed from 9.30am to 4.30pm between junction 10 (Widley) and junction 11 (Chertsey), centre and offside lanes closed outside of these hours.

Wales and West: A46: Temporary lights on Warminster to Wyke road, at Kneol, Wiltshire, A354: Temporary lights, some delay on Salisbury, Puddletown road, at Tarrant Hinton, Dorset, also at Thorncombe, A46: Contraflow over roundabout, Westgate gyratory system, Gloucester, diversions signed, delays.

Midlands: East Anglia: A453: Temporary lights at Thrumpton, Nottinghamshire, between Nottingham and Castle Donington, A12: Temporary signals on Lowestoft - Vauxhall road at Westham, A57: Single lane will temporary lights near Lincoln racecourse.

North: M62: Resurfacing of hard shoulder on east and westbound carriageway between junctions 24 and 26 (Brighouse to Bradford section); some delay. M6211: Resurfacing on N and S bound carriageway between Gidderstone and Bosciton near Leeds. Tyne Tunnel closed for repairs each weekend, until December 17: Friday 7pm until 7am Monday.

South-east: M73: Reduced single outside lane on Northbound link from M74, near Coubridge, A92: Carriageway closures on Great Southern road at King George VI bridge, Aberdeen, A92: Light 2 miles of Strathclyde, Kincardine-shire.

Information supplied by AA

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending December 9, 1984

1. Coronation Street (Wed Granada, 8.30pm)
2. Coronation Street (Mon Granada, 8.30pm)
3. News That Time Times, 10.30pm
4. Play Your Cards Right LWT, 10.30pm
5. Saturday Night Takeaway, 10.30pm
6. Coronation Street (Wed Granada, 10.30pm)
7. The A-Team (TV, 10.30pm)
8. Coronation Street (Mon Granada, 10.30pm)
9. Coronation Street (Tue Granada, 10.30pm)
10. Coronation Street (Wed Granada, 10.30pm)

1. H-de-44, 15.05m
2. Tenko, 14.55m
3. Coronation Street (Wed Granada, 10.30pm)
4. Coronation Street (Mon Granada, 10.30pm)
5. Coronation Street (Tue Granada, 10.30pm)
6. Coronation Street (Wed Granada, 10.30pm)
7. Coronation Street (Mon Granada, 10.30pm)
8. Coronation Street (Tue Granada, 10.30pm)
9. Coronation Street (Wed Granada, 10.30pm)
10. Coronation Street (Mon Granada, 10.30pm)

1. Lane Ducks, 9.05m
2. To the Manor Born, 8.55m
3. Logan's Run, 6.55m
4. For My Money, 5.55m
5. Coronation Street (Wed Granada, 10.30pm)
6. Coronation Street (Mon Granada, 10.30pm)
7. Coronation Street (Tue Granada, 10.30pm)
8. Coronation Street (Wed Granada, 10.30pm)
9. Coronation Street (Mon Granada, 10.30pm)
10. Coronation Street (Tue Granada, 10.30pm)

1. Brooklands (Mon), 6.05m
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Weather forecast

An area of high pressure over N France will drift slowly E.

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S England, E, W Midlands: Frost and fog patches early, otherwise dry, sunny periods; wind S light to max 8C to 10C (46F to 50F).

East Anglia, central N, NE England, Isle of Man, Border, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Anglin, Northern Ireland: Rather drier, a little rain or drizzle in places, some sunny intervals; wind W to SW, moderate; max temp 8C to 10C (46F to 50F).

Channel Islands: Mist patches early, otherwise dry, sunny periods; wind S light to max 10C to 12C (50F to 54F).

SW, NW, Scotland, N Wales: Rather drier, perhaps a little drizzle near coasts, some sunny intervals; wind S light to moderate; max temp 8C to 11C (46F to 52F).

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: A little rain or drizzle at times, some sunny intervals; wind S to SW, moderate to fresh; max temp 8C to 10C (46F to 50F).

SE, W, NW, Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: A little rain or drizzle at times, some sunny intervals; wind S to SW, moderate to fresh; max temp 8C to 10C (46F to 50F).

SEA PASSAGES: North Sea: Strait of Dover: Wind, S backing light or moderate; sea, slight. English Channel (E), Wind, variable becoming S light or moderate; sea, slight. S. George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind, S moderate becoming fresh or strong; sea, slight. becoming moderate or rough.

Sun rises: 7.56 am Sun sets: 3.52 pm
Moon sets: 11.00 am Moon rises: 6.32 pm
Last quarter: December 16.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday, C, about 1, last 7, rain 4, snow 0, fog 0, drizzle 0, hail 0, sleet 0, ice 0, wind 0, sea 0, visibility 0, clouds 0.

Lighting-up time

London 4.22 pm to 7.27 am
Birmingham 4.31 pm to 7.37 am
Edinburgh 4.48 pm to 8.05 am
Manchester 4.18 pm to 7.46 am
Preston 4.50 pm to 7.42 am

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 8.0C (46F), min 4.0C (39F), wind S, 10-15 mph, rain 0, snow 0, fog 0, drizzle 0, hail 0, sleet 0, ice 0, visibility 0, clouds 0.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest dry temps: London, 12C (54F); lowest dry temp: Avon, 7C (45F); highest wet temp: London, 12C (54F); lowest wet temp: Avon, 7C (45F).

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NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars

